Suzzeie Royal 1810

THE

DOMESTIC

MEDICAL GUIDE;

IN TWO PARTS.

PART I.

The Family Dispensatory; or a complete Companion to the Family Medicine Chest, &c.

PART II.

THE MODERN DOMESTIC MEDICINE:

COMPREHENDING

The most approved Methods of treating and obviating the different Diseases that assail the Human Frame; with the most important Information relative to the Cure of those Chronic Diseases which have been generally considered incurable.

THIRD EDITION,
Considerably enlarged and corrected.

BY RICHARD REECE, M.D.

Late of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, and the General Infirmary at Hereford; Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in London; Author of the Medical and Chirurgical Pharmacopœia, &c.

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TO THE

RIGHT REVEREND

RICHARD WATSON, D.D.

LORD BISHOP OF LANDAFF.

MY LORD,

Your Lordship having been pleased to speak in very flattering terms of my endeavours to improve domestic medicine, by rendering it more safe and efficacious I am emboldened to offer to the public this third edition of my Medical Guide, under the powerful sanction of your Lordship's name.

I hope that the numerous additions and improvements which it has received, will render it more worthy of your lordship's acceptance, and more useful to the public; and that in its present form it will direct the benevolent to the very best known methods of relieving the sufferings of the distressed.

I have endeavoured likewise to counteract the pernicious practice of empirics, by exposing the absurdity of professions which are perpe-

tually insulting the public understanding. The number and audacity of these pretenders are such as to threaten destruction to the welfare and happiness of thousands. Under such a arming circumstances, I consider it a duty incumbent on me, as a member of the community, and of the medical profession in particular, to detect the machinations and resist the inroads of this host of mercenary marauders.

The views of these impostors have been too well seconded by the nefarious practices of unprincipled dealers, who, by vending inferior or adulterated drugs, disappoint the hopes of the patient and the practitioner, and thus diminish the confidence of the public in the healing art. As my principles are in direct hostility to these practices, the situation I hold has enabled me in some degree to stem this destructive torrent.

The distinguished patronage which the Chemical and Medical Hall has received from the first families, and the most eminent physicians, I consider a mark of public esteem, highly flattering to me as an individual. The celebrity which it has attained shall stimulate me to use every effort to uphold its character; and as the institution is under my sole direction and management, the public may be assured that every

drug is genuine, nd every chemical preparation formed after the most correct and scientific process. I am sensible that to this circumstance I am indebted for the honour of your lordship's support, which I value most highly, from a character so distinguished for liberality, science, learning and piety.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's much obliged

and most obedient Servant,

RICHARD REECE.

Henrietta-st. Covent Garden,
December 10, 1804.

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Explanation of Weights and Measures.

20 Grains,	make	1 Scruple,
3 Scruples,	. . . . .	1 Drachm,
8 Drachms,	. . . . .	1 Ounce;
12 Ounces,	. . . . .	1 Pint.

The small round impressions of the thin weights, stand for so many grains.

By a tea-spoonful is meant one drachm—a table-spoonful, half an ounce—a wine-glass-fill, two ounces—and a tea-cup-full, three ounces, or a quarter of a pint.

The graduated measure is marked from half a drachm to an ounce.

The doses specified are for adults, which must be increased or diminished according to the constitution of the patient, and the age, according to the following rule:

Two-thirds of the dose, from the age of 14 to 16,
One-half from 7 to 10,
One-third from 4 to 6,
One-fourth to one of 3 years,
One-eighth to one of 2 years,
One-tenth to one of 1 year.

The doses of aperient medicines should be repeated every two or three hours till they produce the desired effect.

THE

DOMESTIC MEDICAL GUIDE.

PART I.

The FAMILY DISPENSATORY; *or, Complete* COMPANION *to the* MEDICINE CHEST.

ON MEDICINE CHESTS.

THE utility of the Family Medicine Chest is so fully established by experience, as to be generally acknowledged and recommended by the first medical characters, not only as affording in the country an immediate resource in cases of sudden attacks of disease, and enabling the physician, surgeon, or apothecary, who may attend from some distance, to administer the remedy without delay, but as possessing the important advantages of being furnished with genuine medicines, (which can scarcely be obtained in country towns and villages), and enabling the benevolent and humane to exercise, at a trifling expence, the truly christian office of alleviating

the sufferings of humanity labouring under the complicated pressures of poverty and disease.— The editors of the PhysicalJournal, in the commendation of such a provison, observe, "There can be little doubt that many valuable lives are lost for want of timely assitance; and, where it is often difficult to get a pactitioner in less than eight hours, this must frequently happen. In cases of poisons swallowel, of drowning, burns, and fits, as well as acute diseases, the aid must be speedy to be effectual"

Various ill-constructed Medicine Chests have been recommended under the names of The Gentleman's—The Ladys—The Infirmary—The Traveller's, &c. The Portable Family Dispensary, described in the former editions of this work, embraces the advantages of the whole, and contains such medicines, &c. as families of distinction should be provided with, especially such as are distant from medical aid.

Description.

Five Bottles in the Back Part for

Calcined Magnesia,
Rochelle, or
Brazil Salts,
Castor Oil,
Tincture of Rhubarb,
Opodeldoc.

Six Bottles in the Front for

Huxham's Tincture of Bark,
Tincture of Senna,
Spirit of Lavender,
Mindererus's Spirit,
Paregoric Elixir.

Twelve Bottle in the Right Wing for

Spirit of Hartshorn,
Spirit of Sal. Volatile,
Vitriolic Æther,
Sweet Spirit of Nitre,
Antimonial Wine,
Tincture of Myrrh,
Acid Elixir of Vitriol,
Tincture of Asafœtida,
Liquid Laudanum,
Essence of Peppermint,
Essence of Cinnamon,
Goulard's Extract of Lead.

Twelve wide-mouth Iottles in the Left Wing for

Salt of Wormwood,
Crystallised Acid of Lemon,
Ipecacuan Powder,
Essential Salt of Bark, or
Salt of Steel,
Powdered Rhubarb,
——— Jalap,
Prepared Calomel,
Emetic Tartar,
Basilic Powder,
Refined Camphor,
Compd. Cretaceous Powder,
Volatile Tincture of Guaiacum.

Six Pots in the Back for

Blistering Plaister,
Spermaceti Ointment,
Savin ditto,
Squill Pill,
Cathartic Extract,
Lenitive Electuary.

Six Drawers in the Front, with Partitions, for

Peruvian Bark,
Senna Leaves,
Flake Manna,
Gum Arabic,
Purified Nitre.
Cream of Tartar,
Washed Sulphur,
Lint
Spermaceti Powder,
Antimonial Powder, commonly called
Dr. James's Fever Powders,
Plaster Skins,
Court Plaster,
Diachylon ditto,
Gum ditto,
A bottle of Smelling Salts,
——— Acetic Acid,
A Spatula,
Bolus Knife,
Pestle and Mortar,
Graduated Measure,
Scales and Weights, Funnel, &c. &c.

The Properties and Doses of the several Medicines contained in the Famly Dispensary.

No. 1. CALCINED MAGNESIA

IS very useful in destroying acidity in the stomach, and thus relieving the unpleasant sensation, termed, the heartburn, for which purpose a tea-spoonful may be taken occasionally, or combined with rhubarb powder, No. 25, as recommended by Dr. Hartmann, in the proportion of five grains of the former to fifteen of the latter, in a glass of peppermint water; when it is the consequence of indigestion from weakness of the stomach, which is generally the case, two tea-spoonfuls of Huxham's tincture of bark, No. 5, should be added to each dose; or it may be taken advantageously with the stomachic mixture. (See Indigestion and Heartburn.) The calcined magnesia of the London College is preferable to the common or aerated magnesia, on account of not producing flatulency on its union with an acid in the stomach, a very troublesome consequence in cases of indigestion; and, when carefully prepared, is unquestionably superior either to Henry's or Glass's magnesia. Magnesia is too frequently adulterated with chalk; this fraud may be detected, by putting

a dessert spoonful of the suspected magnesia into about half an ounce of the diluted vitriolic acid. If the magnesia be entirely taken up, and the solution remain clear, it may be pronounced pure, but not otherwise. If this experiment be made with the common magnesia, a quantity of fixed air will be disengaged; but, with the calcined, there should be no effervescence.

No. 2. ROCHELLE SALTS.

Rochelle salt has been long esteemed by the first physicians on the Continent, as more elegant and less disagreeable than either Glauber's or the Epsom salts, and through the commendation of the late Dr. Cullen, of Edinburgh, is now very deservedly much employed in this country. The brackish taste, which to some delicate palates is so nauseous as to excite vomiting, is effectually covered by being crystallized in an infusion of liquorice root, which has been sold under the name of the *York*, or *Brazil salts*. This pleasant neutral salt, first recommended by Dr. Hunter, has this peculiar advantage over the saline purgatives, that it is not unpleasant to the palate, and is a laxative admirably suited to delicate stomachs; an ounce of either may be taken in half a pint of whey or peppermint-water, or when a more drastic purge is neces-

sary, with an infusion of senna, as the aperient mixture, No. 51.

In the same manner may be taken the *Cheltenham salt*, a solution of which, in the proportion of half an ounce to a pint, affords a good substitute for the purging mineral water, from whence it derives its name.

The phosphate of soda has lately been introduced into the practice of medicine by Dr. Pearson, under the name of the *Tasteless Purging Salt*. The only advantage it possesses over the sulphate of soda, commonly called Glauber's salts, is in being more palatable.

The tartarized kali is an excellent saline aperient; and, in the alterative dose of two drachms every morning in a glass of whey, has been found very beneficial in the inflammatory piles. Half an ounce of the Rochelle salts, or tartarized kali, dissolved in a quart of distilled water, with eight grains of salt of steel, makes a very good aperient chalybeate water.

An aperient sulphurous water may readily be made by dissolving half an ounce of tartarized kali with one drachm of sulphurated kali, (commonly called liver of sulphur,) in a quart of water. A quarter of a pint taken every morning, will prove of great advantage in those inflammatory and eruptive diseases of the skin, generally termed *scorbutic*. In cases of piles,

chronic rheumatism, and worms, it has been considered a specific.

No. 3. CASTOR OIL,

To the extent of an ounce, or twelve drachms, affords a valuable purgative medicine in cases of spasmodic colic, habitual costiveness, or piles. It may be taken conveniently in a little pepper-mint-water, swallowed off as it floats on the top; a table-spoonful of compound tincture of senna, as recommended by Dr. Cullen, will prove a useful addition, in rendering it less nauseous to the taste and stomach, and at the same time promoting its purgative qualities. This oil has lately been prepared in England, as directed by the London College, by carefully decorticating the seed, and pressing them without the aid of heat, by which means a much purer oil is obtained than that imported from the West Indies. It has lately been brought in great quantities from the East Indies, of very superior quality to that prepared in the West, and equal to the cold-expressed of this country.

No. 4. TINCTURE OF RHUBARB,

From half an ounce to an ounce, in the same quantity of water, affords an excellent warm purgative draught, for colicky and flatulent af-

fections of the bowels. In weakness and laxity of the stomach and intestines, and a sluggish state of the liver and other viscera, occasioning imperfect digestion and flatulency, it may be taken with the essential salt of bark, as the stomachic mixture, No. 50.—If attended with any acidity in the stomach, lime-water, No. 104, may be advantageously substituted for the mint-water.

No. 5. HUXHAM'S TINCTURE OF BARK

May be taken to the extent of a table-spoonful, diluted with double the quantity of pure water, three times a day, in cases of languor of the stomach, and debility of the system; eight drops of the acid elixir of vitriol, No. 16, will considerably promote its efficacy, particularly if attended with nocturnal perspirations. (See Tonic Mixture, No. 66.)

The essential salt of bark, dissolved in sherry or claret wine, (See No. 24.) forms a tincture that possesses the virtues of the bark in a much purer and higher degree of perfection, than any of the tinctures, and is at the same time exempt from the pernicious effects of the ardent spirit with which they are made.

No. 6. TINCTURE OF SENNA.

A small wine-glassful may be taken alone, or diluted with water in colicky and flatulent com-

plaints of the bowels, which it will often succeed in relieving, after tincture of rhubarb and other warm purgatives and cordials have failed. (See Aperient Mixture, No. 51.)

A tincture of senna, sweetened and coloured with molosses has long been sold under the name of *Daffy's Elixir*. This preparation is very inferior to the compound tincture of senna of the Edinburgh College, and on account of the molosses generating a quantity of air in the intestines, may prove a dangerous medicine in obstruction of the bowels.

No. 7. SPIRIT OF LAVENDER

Has long been held in high estimation, under the name of Palsy Drops. It may be conveniently taken upon sugar, or in a glass of wine, from forty to eighty drops, in cases of languor, weakness of the nerves, decay of age, lowness of spirits, and fainting fits. (See Nervous Mixture, No. 61.)

It is also frequently employed to cover the ill flavour of nauseous medicines.

No. 8. AERATED MINDERERUS'S SPIRIT

Is a great improvement of the common Mindererus's spirit, from being prepared in a close vessel. The fixed air disengaged in the process,

(which makes its escape in the usual method) is re-absorbed, which considerably promotes its efficacy in febrile and inflammatory affections: when properly neutralized it is an excellent sudorific and gentle aperient saline medicine, and taken to the extent of half an ounce, two or three times a day, in a glass of mint tea, produces a salutary determination to the skin, allays fever, and abates thirst; it is more safe and certain in its operation as a sudorific, than either Dover's powder, or the antimonial preparations, which, on failing to excite perspiration, uniformly aggravate the inflamatory symptoms. In acute rheumatism, twenty drops of antimonial wine, No. 14, and ten of laudanum, No. 18, as recommended by Dr. Blane, may be added to the night doses with advantage; or if laudanum be objectionable, three table spoonfuls of camphorated julep (See No. 30.) may be employed in lieu of it and the mint tea.

It should be kept in a cool place, and the stopper well secured with leather or bladder, to preserve the fixed air.

No. 9. PAREGORIC ELIXIR.

A tea-spoonful taken in a glass of water, three times a day, powerfully allays the tickling sensations in the wind-pipe, which provoke frequent coughing. In spasmodic asthma, and

chronic difficulty of breathing, taken, (as frequently prescribed by the late Doctor Hugh Smith,) with the oxymel of squills, (See Asthmatic Mixture, No. 57.) it gives very considerable relief, by facilitating the expectoration of viscid phlegm, and relieving spasms of the lungs.

It should, however, be very cautiously administered in recent coughs, particularly if attended with fever, pains in the chest, and shortness of breath, symptoms indicating an inflammatory disposition, which the stimulating ingredients of the elixir, and constipating effects of the opium will considerably aggravate. Half an ounce of this elixir contains a grain of opium.

Mr. James Parkinson in his "*Medical Admonitions,*" observes, that "most of the nostrums advertised as cough drops, &c. are preparations of opium, similar to the paregoric elixir of the shops, but disguised and rendered more deleterious by the addition of aromatic and heating gums." Those stimulating anodynes in the hands of ignorance are certainly often productive of irreparable mischief in affections of the lungs; and to their indiscriminate use, may with great justice be ascribed, the peculiar frequency of pulmonary consumptions in this island. (See Coughs.)

No. 10. SPIRIT OF HARTSHORN.

From twenty to thirty drops in a glass of water, for lowness of spirits, fainting, and hysteric fits; it may likewise be rubbed on the temples, and applied to the nostrils. The same quantity of the compound spirit of lavender will render it more agreeable to the palate, and acceptable to the stomach, and at the same time promote its cordial powers. Equal parts of hartshorn and olive oil, form an excellent stimulating external application for paralytic numbness, chronic rheumatism, diseased joints, and inflammatory sore throat. (See Volatile Liniment, No. 92.)

Fifty drops of hartshorn in a glass of water every night and morning, was a favorite remedy with Sir John Pringle, for chronic rheumatism. The volatile tincture of guaiacum, No. 32, generally proves more effectual in exciting perspiration.

The spirit of hartshorn is frequently mixed with the water of ammonia to increase the pungency of its smell, and to enable it to bear an addition of water. This fraud is detected by adding highly rectified spirit of wine to the suspected spirit if no considerable coagulation; ensues, the adulteration is proved. True spirit of hartshorn will not effervesce with an acid.

No. 11. SP. SAL VOLATILE.

To be taken in the same manner, and for the same purposes as the spirit of hartshorn, No. 10.—A tea-spoonful of this aromatic volatile spirit, with the same quantity of compound spirit of lavender, taken in a tea-cupful of horse-radish and mustard seed tea is an efficacious stimulating medicine in gouty affections of the stomach, and paralytic numbness of the extremities. (See Tincture of Guaiacum, No. 32, and Stimulating Mixture, No. 63.)

It will likewise prove a valuable addition to the tincture of the essential salt of bark, made with sherry or claret wine, (See No. 24.) in debility of the stomach and nervous system. (See also Nervous Mixture, No. 61.)

Sp. Sal Volatile, or compound spirit of ammonia, as it is now more properly termed, should, (if prepared according to the directions of the London College) be of a bright dark reddish colour, approaching to tincture of myrrh, and not of a pellucid pale, as is generally sold by druggists and apothecaries: by these deviations from the formulæ of the College, the most serious consequences do frequently occur in the practice of medicine.

The sp. sal volatile of the Edinburgh College, being impregnated with the properties of the rose-

mary, is a better cephalic and nervous medicine than that of the London College; the dose is the same.

No. 12. ÆTHER.

A tea-spoonful in a glass of peppermint or pure water, in spasmodic colic, cramp of the stomach, and asthmatic, hysteric, epileptic, and fainting fits. A dessert spoonful in a wine-glass of camphorated julep, Dr. Lind and other practitioners, have found an admirable remedy when the gout flies to the stomach. It often gives ease in the most violent head-ach, by being applied externally to the part, and relieves the tooth-ach, by being laid on the afflicted tooth and jaw by means of lint. It should be swallowed as quickly as possible, and kept well corked and inverted in water, to prevent its exhalation. (See Antispasmodic Mixture, No. 59.)

A nostrum, under the name of *Tickel's Æther*, has lately been much puffed off by venders of quack medicines, as superior to the Æther of the shops. It does not, however, possess any advantage over the æther of either the London or Edinburgh College.

The once celebrated anodyne liquor of Hoffman, is a weak sort of æther. Good æther should not redden the colour of Litmus, or give any precipitation with a solution of Barytes.

No. 13, SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE

Allays fevers, quenches thirst, promotes the natural secretions, moderately strengthens the stomach, and resists putrefaction; hence it becomes a valuable medicine in fevers, both inflammatory and putrid.—It may be given from twenty-five to thirty drops, in barley water, or with the aerated Mindererus's spirit, No. 8. In cases of strangury or stoppage of urine, it may be given with advantage in a decoction of marshmallow root, or gum arabic tea, to which an ounce of castor oil may be added, if the body be costive. A tea-spoonful of a mixture of equal parts of sweet spirit of nitre, and sal volatile, No. 11, taken in a mixture of the essential salt of bark, No. 24, will increase the secretion of urine in dropsical complaints, and at the same time strengthen the constitution.

Sweet spirit of nitre is used by the French distillers to flavour their best brandy.

No. 14. TARTARISED ANTIMONIAL WINE,

Is not so precarious and uncertain in its operation as the common antimonial wine, the strength of which is always very uncertain, however carefully prepared; it should therefore be always preferred. In inflammatory affec-

tions, particularly of the chest, and recent coughs from obstructed perspiration, administered in a mucilaginous vehicle, as directed by Dr. Blount, of Hereford, in the proportion of the cough mixture, No. 55, it much relieves respiration, promotes expectoration, and abates fever, by producing a determination to the skin; and in the Doctor's practice it proved more successful in those cases than any other diaphoretic medicine.

For the purpose of vomiting, this wine should be given to the extent of two tea-spoonfuls; which, by acting as an *emetic*, *sudorific* and *aperient*, will often check the progress of inflammatory fever, particularly in its commencement. In sciatica, and inflammatory rheumatism, thirty drops of antimonial wine, with fifteen drops of laudanum, No. 18, in a glass of mint water, taken every night at bed-time, was a very favourite remedy with the late Dr. Fothergill, and certainly deserves the high commendation paid to it by that esteemed author.

Like all other antimonial preparations, as Dr. James's fever powder, it is an active remedy; and while it has often, under proper management, been productive of much good, it has on the other hand, more frequently done irreparable mischief, from being administered in low fevers, and putrid ulcerated sore throats, bring-

ing on such great evacuations as to hurry the patients to their graves in a short time. Such potent medicines should not therefore be had recourse to, unless prescribed, or the nature of the fever ascertained by a medical practitioner. (See No. 42.) Mindererus's spirit, No. 8, with sweet spirit of nitre, No. 13, and camphorated julep, will generally answer every purpose of the antimonial preparations, to excite perspiration, and may be employed with advantage in those ambiguous fevers, which occur for the most part in Autumn.

In obstinate eruptions of the skin, tartarised antimony wine, in small doses of eight or ten drops, three times a day, in a tea-cupful of the decoction of the inner bark of the elm tree, is a good alterative medicine. This decoction is made by boiling an ounce of the inner rind of the elm bark in a pint of water, to the consumption of one half. (See Eruptions of the Skin.)

Antimony and mercury form the basis of the advertised medicines for diseases of the skin, although the contrary is asserted by the proprietors, in their addresses to the public, to the great injury of those who are so imprudent as to take them; more especially to use their lotions, which contain a considerable quantity of corrosive sublimate of mercury, in solution. (See St. Anthony's Fire.)

No. 15, TINCTURE OF MYRRH

Is principally employed in domestic medicine as a lotion for the teeth and gums, and in those constitutional caries, or decay of the teeth, which commence with black specks, or superficial holes in the enamel, it will frequently check their progress, but it can have little or no effect in removing tartarous encrustations. (See Tooth Ache.)

Myrrh has been much esteemed as a warm strengthener of the stomach and bowels, and as such has proved serviceable in languid cases, and those female disorders that proceed from a cold, sluggish indisposition of the humours. A tea-spoonful may be taken twice a day, in a glass of strong, cold, camomile tea; or, as recommended by Dr. Lind, with half a drachm of Peruvian bark powder, No. 33, in a glass of peppermint water: but the best method of administering myrrh, is in the form of pills, combined with steel, gentian and aloes, as the ecphratic pill of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, ten grains of which may be taken twice a day.

Both tincture of myrrh, and compound tincture of Benzoin, commonly called Friar's Balsam, are improper applications for recent cuts; the stimulating resinous gums of which they are made being decomposed on being mixed

with the blood, they not only prevent the sides of the wound uniting, but excite so much inflammation as to produce ulceration. (See Cuts and Bruises.)

In cases of putrid sore throat and the thrush, tincture of myrrh, with the elixir of vitriol, and an infusion of roses, form a good detergent gargle. (See Detergent Gargle, No. 84.)

No. 16. ACID ELIXIR OF VITRIOL,

In the dose of 12 to 20 drops twice a day, in a wine glass of water, is a valuable medicine in weakness and relaxation of the stomach, and decays of constitution, particularly when induced by irregularities, and will often succeed after the Peruvian bark, and other tonic medicines have proved unavailing. It is likewise an excellent remedy for restraining the profuse nocturnal perspirations attendant on hectic fevers, and relaxed habits. (See Indigestion.)

For redundancy of bile in the stomach and intestines, elixir of vitriol will chemically prove of more permanent service than calomel, or the drastic purges too frequently employed for its evacuation, and will at the same time, tend to remove the cause, by strengthening the digestive organs, which these strong remedies considerably impair. (See Bilious Affections.)

Acid elixir of vitriol, properly diluted with

an infusion of rose leaves, makes an excellent gargle for inflammation of the throat, and relaxation of the soft palate. (See Acidulated Gargle, No. 82.)

No. 17, TINCTURE OF ASAFŒTIDA.

From thirty to fifty drops, in a glass of pennyroyal or peppermint water, for lowness of spirits, hysteric, (See Antihysteric Mixture, No. 54.) epileptic and fainting fits; different kinds of nervous complaints, spasmodic cholic, (See Antispasmodic Mixture, No. 59.) and asthma, (See Asthmatic Mixture, No. 57.) The addition of ten drops of sal volatile to each dose disguises its ill taste, and at the same time coincides with its virtues.

A mixture of one third of tincture of asafœtida; and two of paregoric elixir, taken in the dose of a tea-spoonful, has proved particularly serviceable in relieving asthma, by expelling wind, promoting expectoration, and allaying irritation. (See Asthma.) In the hooping-cough and croup it will prove equally beneficial, in doses proportioned to the age of the patient—To a child of two years old, six drops, increasing two drops for every year. Both Dr. Cullen and Dr. Miller speak highly of the expectorant properties &c. of asafœtida in spasmodic asthma, difficulty of breathing, hooping-cough, and

croup. (See Asthmatic Mixture, No. 57, and Hooping Cough.)

No. 18, LIQUID LAUDANUM.

From fifteen to forty drops, in any convenient vehicle, to be increased and diminished in proportion to the degree of pain and intervals of repetition. When judiciously administered, this is, no doubt, the most valuable medicine in the *Materia Medica*; and in certain stages, and with certain combinations, is advantageously employed in almost every disease incident to the human frame. It mitigates pain, induces sleep, allays inordinate action, and diminishes morbid irritability; hence it becomes an invaluable remedy in obviating, symptomatic fevers, from accidents. In spasmodic colic, it prevents inflammation of the bowels; and in all spasmodic affections it is more or less employed. In incurable diseases, where the sufferings of the patient are most excruciating, as in cancer, &c. it wonderfully alleviates the miseries, and renders the life of the patient tolerable.

If moderate doses of ten or twelve drops of liquid laudanum (which should always be begun with, says Dr. Cullen.) do not answer, they must be repeated and increased till the desired effect is obtained; and in this manner the dose of this drug may be pushed with safety to a very

great length; but this advice should only be followed in cases of accident and chronic diseases, where there is considerable local irritation to overcome.

To counteract the effects of too large a dose of laudanum, coffee has been found to answer best as a diluter, and ipecacuanha powder as an emetic; and when the quantity taken is so great as to render vomiting necessary, the ipecacuanha should be administered to the extent of two scruples, with half an ounce of tartarised antimony wine, No. 14. Lemon juice is likewise much recommended as a powerful corrector of the narcotic effects of an over-dose of laudanum, and will prove an useful adjuvate to the emetic, in the dose of a wine-glassful. (See the Treatment of Vegetable Poisons.)

An *acetous tincture of opium* has lately been preferred to the liquid laudanum by many physicians of character, on account of its not producing the affections of the head and febrile irritation in the system, which sometimes follow the exhibition of opium or laudanum. It is likewise said to be more certain in producing sleep. The dose of this preparation is the same as the liquid laudanum.

For inflammation of the eyes, two drops of laudanum, dropped in the affected eye or eyes twice a day, will often succeed in dispersing the inflammation in three or four applications, after

saturnine lotions and blistering have failed.—Some practitioners have preferred a vinous or watery solution of opium for this purpose; but the small quantity of spirit in the laudanum is more serviceable than otherwise.

No. 19. ESSENCE OF PEPPERMINT

Readily mixes with water, and, in the proportion of thirty drops to a pint, makes a pleasanter and better simple water than that distilled from the herb; which, from not retaining its flavour in perfection long, is seldom to be obtained good in the shops. The spirituous peppermint-water may be made, by employing brandy in lieu of water, which will prove less pernicious to the organs of digestion, than that made with spirit of wine. Peppermint-water is chiefly employed as a pleasant vehicle for nauseous and other medicines; it is often taken, however, alone, for flatulency, cramp in the stomach, and colicky pains; but the relief it affords is often transitory.

An essence coloured by sap green, or by steeping in it some green leaves, has been long sold under the name of Juniper's Essence of Peppermint. The essence made with the true oil, and best rectified spirit, should be nearly as clear as spring water.

In the same manner may be made, from the

different essences, the spirituous and simple waters of *aniseed, caraway-seed, dill, pennyroyal, savin, and fennel, pimento, nutmeg, hyssop, rue, spear mint, juniper.*

No. 20. ESSENCE OF CINNAMON

For making the spirituous and simple cinnamon-water in the same manner as the foregoing, —to which a little sugar may be added. Water thus impregnated with the essential oil of the cinnamon, affords a pleasant and useful vehicle for the compound cretaceous powder. (See Cretaceous Mixture, No. 53.) In diarrhœa or looseness, arising from acidity in the stomach and intestines, a dose of rhubarb powder and magnesia should always be premised. (See Darrhœa.)

No. 21. SALT OF WORMWOOD

Is chiefly used for neutralizing the lemon juice. (See No. 22.) It is often prescribed in doses of six or ten grains, dissolved in mint-water, for acidity in the stomach and suppression of urine. The alkaline mephitic water, made by dissolving two ounces and a half of salt of wormwood, in five quarts of distilled water, and afterwards saturated with fixed air, by Nooth's or Par-

ker's apparatus, taken to the extent of half a pint, three times a day, is without doubt the best remedy ever employed for the stone and gravel. If this quantity should prove cold or flatulent, two tea-spoonfuls of spirit of juniper, commonly called Hollands, or any other spirituous liquor, may be taken with each dose; or if it should nauseate the stomach, a tea-spoonful of paregoric elixir may be substituted for spirit of juniper, or taken a quarter of an hour before the mephitic alkaline water. The aerated soda water is made by employing the same quantity of prepared soda, in lieu of the salt of wormwood.

Dr. Beddoes recommends pills composed of soda and Castile soap, (See Pills for the Gravel, No. 70.) as a good substitute for the mephitic alkaline water, when, through the effects of dizziness and nausea, the patient is unable to persevere *properly* in the use of it; and the learned Doctor produces several cases which shew that those pills are very beneficial in calculous complaints.—The *super-carbonate of soda* is, we think, preferable, in such cases, to the *prepared soda*, as approaching nearer to the mephitic alkaline water; to which a solution of two drachms of that elegant preparation, in a pint of water, is by no means inferior, and at the same time exempt from its ill effects, which

induced Dr. Beddoes first to give the salt in the form of pills. A solution of the super-carbonate of soda has lately been much recommended by several eminent practitioners, in lieu of the water made with the vegetable alkali. (See Stone and Gravel.)

The mephitic alkaline water should be kept in half-pint bottles, (closely corked and sealed over,) in a cool situation, with their bottoms upwards, to prevent the escape of the fixed air.

Two drachms of the salt of wormwood, dissolved in two ounces of water, is much recommended by Dr. Rosentein, to be given to children for the rickets, in the dose of twenty to fifty drops twice a day. In the same manner it has been exceedingly beneficial in convulsive fits of infants, as appears by several late communications in the Physical and Medical Journal. It is much used by publicans, to destroy the acidity of stale malt liquor, and thus rendering it mild; and, from the little effervescence that ensues, giving it the appearance of being fresh. Bakers use it with alum to make the bread light, which it does by disengaging a quantity of fixed air on its union with the alum. This combination is very unwholesome, and, as a food for children, especially infants, highly pernicious.

Salt of wormwood is a powerful agent in

counteracting the fatal effects of mineral poisons taken into the stomach. (See Treatment of Mineral Poisons.)

No. 22. CRYSTALLISED ACID OF LEMON.

This preparation affords a good substitute for the juice of the lemon when it cannot be obtained fresh, which often happens in the country. A drachm of this acid is equivalent to an ounce and half of the recent juice. Equal quantities of the crystallised acid of lemon and salt of wormwood, about a drachm of each, dissolved in half a pint of water, with six drops of essence of peppermint and a little sugar, readily make the saline mixture, so much extolled in inflammatory fevers. (See Saline Mixture, No. 67.) Where the skin is parched with great increased heat, this mixture generally operates as a gentle sudorific; cools the body, allays thirst, increases the secretion of urine, and operates on the bowels, so as to produce two or three motions in the course of the day; but to obtain these effects, it should be given in much greater quantities than usually prescribed, and instead of a medicine, should be used, as directed by Dr. Latham, more as the common beverage, to the extent of a quart in a day. The saline mixture succeeds better, if given in the act of effervescence, which is done by dissolving a scru-

ple of salt of wormwood in an ounce of mint-water, and mixing with it, at the moment of taking, a table-spoonful of lemon juice, sweetened with sugar, or a scruple of the crystallised acid of lemon, previously dissolved in an ounce of common water; the effervescence, with the lemon juice, being more gradual, answers in this case much better than the salt, the fixed air in the latter being disengaged too suddenly for any portion to be swallowed, through being deprived of its mucilage in the crystallization of the acid; but when the recent juice cannot be readily procured, this inconvenience may be obviated, by dissolving with the acid five or six grains of powdered gum arabic: or the effervescence may be made to take place in the stomach, by first taking the solution of the salt of wormwood, and afterwards the lemon juice, or solution of the crystallised acid, in the above proportions; in either way a much less quantity is necessary than the saline mixture without the fixed air.

The crystallised acid of the tartar of claret wine is, perhaps, for medicinal purposes, superior to the crystallised acid of lemon, which is scarcely to be obtained entirely free from a portion of sulphuric acid. Many physicians have lately preferred it even to the recent juice of the lemon, for making the saline mixture. It is of the same strength as the crystallised acid of lemon, and may be used in the same manner.—

Two ounces put into a wine quart bottle of pure water, dissolves readily, and makes it equal, in strength, to lemon juice, to which it is superior in flavour, and for the purpose of acidulating punch more salutary. A solution of this acid, flavoured with a little Madeira wine, has been sold at an extravagant price, as a pure vegetable acid for making punch.

The saline draught, in a state of effervescence, is a good preventive medicine against the infection of contageous fevers, and may be employed as an auxiliary to the nitrous fumigation. (See Vitriolic Acid, No. 109.)

To remove stains of ink, or fruit and iron moulds in cloth, paper, or wood, this acid will answer better than the powder generally sold for the purpose, under the name of *Essential Salt of Lemon*; which for the sake of cheapness is mixed with a portion of sal enixum, which from its caustic quality will likewise destroy the linen, or discolour the wood. The acid of tartar may be used in the following manner:—After wetting the spot with warm water, rub over with a finger a little of the acid, previously powdered in a glass mortar; if it does not readily disappear, the linen may be laid over a warm pewter plate, and the above process repeated.

For removing stains from mahogany, spirit

of salts, diluted with four times its weight of water will answer best. The spot may be covered with it for five or six minutes, and then washed off; the application may be repeated till the purpose is answered.

White, sugar ground with a little essence of lemon, has lately been sold at a shameful high price, under the name of *Sugar of Lemons*, as a necessary article to accompany the use of the acid of lemon, in making the saline draughts, punch, &c.

Such a paltry mixture would have better become a Confectioner, than one who has styled himself a *Chemist*.

No. 23. IPECACUANHA,

In the state of powder, is advantageously employed in almost every disease, in which full vomiting is required; in doses of one scruple to twenty-five grains, mixed with a little water, or, as advised by Sir John Pringle, Stoll, and Zinnerman, with the emetic tartar, in the proportion of the emetic powder, No. 77. In small doses of three to five grains, as recommended by Dr. Cleghorn, it furnishes the most useful, active, and, at the same time, innocent sweating medicine we possess; (See Sudorific Mixture, No. 52.) and proves highly serviceable, combined with a quarter of a grain of opium, or five drops of laudanum, every two or three hours, in dy-

sentery, obstinate purgings, habitual asthmatic indisposition and hooping-cough. A full dose of twenty-five grains has proved extremely serviceable during the paroxysm of spasmodic asthma.

Equal parts of ipecacuan wine and paregoric elixir, taken in the dose of a tea-spoonful, in a glass of water, three times a day, will prove useful in relieving coughs, difficulty of breathing, and asthma. (See Mixture for Hooping-Cough, No. 65.)

Ipecacuan, in the dose of five grains twice a day, has been found very efficacious in spitting of blood, by Dr. Stoll, of Vienna; and has lately been much employed in this country with the same advantage.

It has likewise the property of diminishing the soporific effects of opium or any of the vegetable poisons, and hence will prove a powerful auxiliary to the emetic tartar, (See Emetic Powder, No. 77.) for the purpose of exciting vomiting, in cases of too great a quantity of those poisons being taken into the stomach. (See Treatment of Poisons.)

The famous sweating powder of Dr. Dover is composed of one part of ipecacuan powder, one of opium powder, and eight of vitrolated kali, commonly called sal polychrest. From ten to twenty grains may be taken in any convenient vehicle in rheumatic affections. The pa-

tient should lie between the blankets in a flannel shirt, and take, as soon as he begins to perspire, some warm liquid in small portions, frequently, such as thin gruel, Bohea tea, or weak white wine whey.

No. 24. ESSENTIAL SALT OF BARK

Contains in a concentrated state the volatile active properties of the Peruvian bark, in a high degree of perfection, and answers every purpose of the powder, without producing any of its ill effects, as nausea, vomiting, and purging, so much to be dreaded in cases of extreme debility of the system; as low fevers, putrid sore throat, mortifications and agues, in which no other preparation of this valuable medicine affords a proper substitute for the powder.

Ten grains of the essential salt is equal to a drachm of the bark in substance; much more pleasant to the palate, and agreeable to the stomach, and may with equal advantage be employed where the use of a tonic is indicated. In intermittent and remittent fevers, ten grains may be taken every two hours, either in the form of pills or dissolved in an ounce of camphorated julep; (See Camphorated Bark Mixture, No. 56.) but in low fevers, putrid sore throat, and mortifications, red port wine is a better vehicle; with which, in the proportion of

three drachms to a quart, it makes an elegant tincture of the bark, possessing all its active properties, and free from the pernicious effects of the ardent spirit of wine, used in the different simple and compound tinctures.

The Peruvian bark, as a strengthening medicine, has been more extensively and successfully employed than any other article in the Materia Medica. It is the only safe remedy for intermittent, remittent, and putrid fevers and mortifications; nor is it less esteemed in diseases arising from, or inducing debility; as the convalescent state after all fevers, scurvy, dropsy, scrophula, rickets, nervous irritability, periodical head-achs, hysteric fits, &c.

This valuable preparation of the Peruvian bark was first made in France, by the Count de Garraye, and I believe first prescribed in this country by Dr. James Carmichael Smyth, who, from repeated trials, now gives it a decided preference.

The first public account of its advantages over the other preparations of the bark, together with the process of making it, I communicated to the profession through the medium of the Medical and Physical Journal, since which it has been very extensively prescribed with effect, in cases of extreme debility of the system, after the bark in substance had been either rejected by the stomach or had produced

laxative effects on the bowels. Dr. Chestern, of Gloucester, a physician of the first respectability in this kingdom; and Dr. Blount, an able physician, in Hereford, have given it an extensive trial in their practice, whose testimonies confirm the accounts given of it by the French physicians chemists, &c. Dr. Ward, an eminent practitioner at Leicester, has found it particularly serviceable in a putrid fever that occurred in that neighbourhood.

No. 25. POWDER OF RHUBARB,

Is an excellent aperient medicine, operating without violence or irritation, and may be given with safety, even to pregnant women and children; besides its purgative quality, it is celebrated for an astringency, which strengthens the tone of the stomach and intestines, and and hence proves useful in disorders, arising from laxity of the fibres. The dose, when intended as a purgative, is from half a drachm to two scruples in a little peppermint water, to which ten grains of calcined magnesia may be added, as prescribed by Dr. Hartmann, when an acidity prevails in the stomach.

A powder composed of two parts of rhubarb, one of calomel, and one of ginger powder, is an efficacious remedy for worms, and a good purge, in dropsical and bilious complaints, or when the bowels are obstructed with slime; half a drachm

may be taken in any thick vehicle, to prevent the deposition of the calomel. (See Bilious Pills, No. 72.)

A mixture of fifteen grains of rhubarb, a scruple of calcined magnesia, a drachm of white syrup of poppies, and two ounces of dill water, in the dose of a tea-spoonful, will prove highly serviceable in removing many disorders children are subject to, from a redundancy of acrid humours in the stomach and intestines, and more safe and efficacious than all the advertised carminatives, which, from their constipating effects, frequently occasion fatal inflammation of the intestines of infants.

The peculiar purgative properties of rhubarb, are by no means improved by the addition of cream of tartar or sal polychrest, so frequently prescribed, but on the contrary rendered more violent in its operation on the bowels, occasioning it to gripe the patient severely; neither is magnesia a proper addition, only in cases of acidity. When a more drastic purge is deemed necessary, jalap powder is far preferable to such discordant combinations.

The Turkey or Russia rhubarb is manifestly more astringent and milder in its operation than the East India sort.

No. 62. POWDER OF JALAP,

In the dose of twenty-five grains, with five grains of ginger; or twenty grains, mixed with two drachms of compound tincture of senna, and one ounce of mint water, is a very pleasant, safe, and effectual, purgative medicine; and generally performs its office without occasioning nausea or gripes. In cases of dropsy or worms, five grains of calomel, to fifteen or twenty grains of jalap, with one drop of essence of peppermint, will prove highly beneficial, and should be repeated three times a week, taking in the intermediate time the tonic mixture, No. 66.

In delicate constitutions, half the dose of the powder of jalap, and as much powder of rhubarb, with three drops of essence of mint, will act more mildly than jalap alone.

The operation of these medicines may be promoted by taking afterwards a weak solution of the neutral salts, (See No. 2.) as recommended by Dr. Saunders.

No. 27. CALOMEL

Is the best and safest preparation of mercury. In domestic practice it is principally employed as a worm medicine, and is certainly the best remedy that can be made use of for the destruction of every species of worms, combined with

proper cathartics, as the basilic powder, No. 29. For those complaints of the stomach and bowels which are generally attributed to a redundancy of bile, but in fact arise from a deficiency in that secretion, in consequence of an indolent state of the liver, three or four grains may be taken every other morning, with ten grains of rhubarb, and five of the farina of the Jamaica ginger, in the form of pills, with great advantage. (See Bilious affections, and Indigestion.

In cutaneous (generally termed scorbutic) eruptions, and chronic inflammation of the eye-lids, half a grain of calomel, taken twice a day, with ten drops of the antimonial wine, No. 14, will prove a good alterative medicine: a dose of rhubarb should be occasionally intervened, to prevent salivation, and its use discontinued as soon as the mouth is made tender by it.

In diseases of children, as rickets and convulsions, which frequently arise from an accumulation of slime in the intestines, and obstructions in the mesenteric glands, this medicine, given in doses proportioned to the age of the child, with a little magnesia, will often be attended with the most salutary effects. Dr. Clarke and Dr. Heighton often prescribe it in the dose of six grains for a child of two years old; and experience has proved that children bear the operation of a large dose as well as an adult. But in *Domestic Medicine* the dose for a

child of one year old should not exceed two grains, increasing one grain for every year to the age of five. Sugar so frequently employed for the exhibition of this medicine to children is a bad vehicle, on account of it turning sour in the stomach, and thus considerably increasing its acrimony.

Mercury is the only remedy to be relied on in the cure of the lues venerea, for this purpose it must be gradually introduced unto the habit by administring small doses two or three times a day, combined with such anodyne substances that will restrain its cathartic tendency. (See Venereal Disease.)

Calomel is sometimes adulterated with prepared chalk, which may be discovered by pouring on a small quantity of the suspected calomel a little deluted vitriolic acid; if an effervescence ensues the adulteration is proved.

No. 28. EMETIC TARTAR.

From two to three grains, dissolved in warm water, and given alone as an emetic; or from half a grain to a grain, with fifteen or twenty grains of ipecacuanha powder (See Emetic Powder, No. 77.) on the first attack of hooping-cough, small-pox, measles, inflammatory fevers, foulness of the stomach, dropsical complaints, diseases of the lungs, as asthma, and dysp-

nœa, and all cases, where speedy and full vomiting is required. In fevers, attended with great prostration of strength or diarrhœa, ipecacuanha, as operating less on the bowels, should be preferred.

Emetic tartar, in small doses, combined with calomel, as in the following proportions, has been found a powerful, yet safe alterative medicine in obstinate eruptions or foulness of the skin. Take of emetic tartar four grains, calomel sixteen grains; mix well together; and with a little soft bread, form twenty-four pills, of which one is to be taken every morning and evening, with a draught of sassafras tea, or decoction of elm bark. (See Calomel and Eruptions of the Skin.)

To excite vomiting after a large dose of a vegetable poison, emetic tartar, in the dose of four grains, dissolved in a little water, will often answer better than ipecacuanha, on account of its more speedy operation; but in cases of mineral poisons, ipecacuanha, in the doses of two scruples to a drachm is to be preferred, as the alkaline medicines administered to decompose the mineral poison, would have the same effect on the emetic tartar, and thus render it inert. (See Treatment of Poisons.)

The observations on the use of antimonial wine, (See No. 14.) are equally applicable to

emetic tartar, of which the tartarised antimonial wine is only a solution in white wine.

No. 29. BASILIC POWDER

Is a medicine of great ancient repute, as a remedy for every species of worms lodged in the alimentary canal, and is without doubt the most powerful and safe vermifuge we are acquainted with. It may be given to children of all ages, in a little honey or currant jelly, every second or third morning, in the doses of two grains to to a child of one year old, increasing one grain for every year, to the age of twenty. The tonic mixture, No. 66, should be taken in the intermediate time, and continued some time after the evacuation of the worms. This is a very favourite remedy with Dr. Cam, an able practitioner in Hereford, who frequently prescribed it for children to empty the bowels of slime and crudities, and at the same time as a good security against worms and their effects, which so frequently produce the most alarming and even fatal disorders that assail the human frame. (See Worms.)

The basilic powder is likewise a good purgative in dropsical cases, and will answer much better than large doses of cream of tartar, or any other purgative medicine, when a considerable

discharge is required from the system. (See Pills, No. 69, for Dropsy.)

The nostrums advertised as remedies for worms are composed of mercury: those made up in the form of lozenges with sugar, and in ginger-bread nuts, by becoming acescent from being kept long, or in a damp place, by increasing the acrimony of the mercury are rendered a powerful poison: a case of the sudden death of a child, in consequence of taking a medicine of this kind, was lately published by the Sheriff at Liverpool, as a caution against its use. It is strange that the first characters in the Church of England should sanction a practice by which so many of the human race are annually destroyed.

No. 30, CAMPHOR

Is very generally employed in fevers, both of the inflammatory and malignant kind, in spasmodic affections, morbid irritability of the nervous system, and often in fluxes.

The common and best method of exhibiting camphor, is suspended in water by means of gum arabic and sugar, as the following:

Camphorated Julep.

Take of camphor twenty grains, spirit of wine twenty drops, white sugar and gum arabic,

of each two drachms. Rub the camphor first with the spirit of wine, then with the sugar, and when reduced to a fine powder, add the gum arabic, previously dissolved in the same quantity of water, and when well mixed, pour to it, by degrees, a pint of boiling water, continuing the rubbing; then cover it over, and when cold, strain it through fine linen.

A mixture of six ounces of this julep, and two ounces of aerated Mindererus's spirit, No. 8, taken in the dose of three table-spoonfuls every three or four hours, is a safe and good sudorific in all inflammatory and febrile affections. In fevers, strictly inflammatory, it may be given with the tartarised antimony wine, No. 14. In putrid fever, malignant sore throat, and mortifications, it affords a very excellent vehicle for the exhibition of Peruvian bark. (See Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, and Mixture, No. 56.) In stranguary and stoppage of urine, three table-spoonfuls of a mixture of camphorated julep, and two drachms of dulcified spirit of nitre, will prove of great service.

In rheumatism, gout, and paralytic affections, a mixture of six ounces of camphorated julep, one ounce of volatile tincture of guaiacum, and two drachms of honey, will form an excellent stimulating medicine. The tincture should be first rubbed with the honey, and the camphorated julep added afterwards by degrees. Three

table-spoonfuls of this mixture may be taken every three or four hours. (See Antirheumatic mixture, No. 60.)

In cases of *increased irritability of the nerves*, and *other nervous affections*, six ounces of camphorated julep, with one ounce of tincture of castor, two drachms of sal volatile, and two of spirit of lavender, may be taken with great advantage, in the dose of two table-spoonfuls every four hours. (See Nervous Mixture, No. 61.)

In cases of *hooping-cough*, *difficulty of breathing*, and *asthma*, combined with oxymel of squills and asafœtida, in the following proportions, is as effectual a remedy, as can be employed if unattended with any febrile symptoms. Take of camphorated julep six ounces, tincture of asafœtida one ounce, oxymel of squills half an ounce; two table-spoonfuls to be taken every four hours.

Camphor combined with asafœtida, is much recommended by Dr. Hartmann, as an excellent medicine for asthma, or difficulty of breathing. (See Asthmatic Mixture, No. 57.)

Two drachms of camphor, dissolved in two ounces of rectified spirit of wine, and two drachms of spirit of turpentine, form an excellent stimulating liniment for rheumatic, and paralytic pains or numbness.

No. 31, COMPOUND CRETACEOUS POWDER

Is a very useful medicine in correcting acidity, and strengthening the stomach and bowels, and hence has been found particularly serviceable in restraining diarrhœa or looseness. Twenty grains may be taken in a glass of water, with three drops of the essence of cinnamon, or in a mixture, as the following:

Take of the compound cretaceous powder two drachms, gum arabic three drachms, pure water half a pint, essence of cinnamon thirty drops; rub the powder with the gum arabic, and then add, by degrees, the water and essence. Three table-spoonfuls should be taken every three hours, or after every loose motion. If the purging should be violent, or attended with much pain in the bowels, six or eight drops of laudanum may be added to every or every other dose; and three or four grains of ipecacuanha powder, if the stools should be attended with much mucus, or streaked with blood. (See Cretaceous Mixture, No. 53.)

An emetic of ipecacuanha, No. 23, or a dose of rhubarb, No. 25, should always precede the use of astringent medicines, in cases of diarrhœa or looseness, particularly when they arise

from acrid humours in the stomach and intestines. The critical purgings of fevers should not be suddenly checked, unless indicated by reduced state of the patient.

No. 32, VOLATILE TINCTURE OF GUAIACUM.

In chronic rheumatism, gout of the stomach, and paralytic numbness, a dessert-spoonful, taken morning and evening, will prove the most efficacious stimulating medicine that can be employed. It may be taken with the camphorated julep, as the antirheumatic mixture, No. 60; or if attended with much debility of the system, the bark mixture, (See No. 24,) may be substituted. The part affected with rheumatism should be well rubbed with the volatile liniment, No. 93, or electrified, and kept warm with flannel.

No. 33, PERUVIAN BARK POWDER.

There are three species of the Peruvian bark made use of in Britain, viz. the pale, the red, and the yellow, which are promiscuously administered, from half a drachm to a drachm, every hour, in fevers of the intermittent class, commonly called agues, with equal advantage. Dr. Saunders recommends the red, when it can be

obtained genuine; but through its great scarcity, and a spurious kind (which appears to be large willow bark, coloured) sold for it, the pale has latterly had the preference in this country, and the yellow in the West Indies. If the full dose should disagree with the stomach and bowels, so as to produce vomiting or looseness, three or four drops of laudanum should be given with every, or every other dose, and five grains of the farina of Jamaica ginger, if it should oppress the stomach. (See Tonic Powder, No. 80.) It may be taken either in port wine, camphorated julep, or peppermint water; or in order to cover its ill taste, (which to some people is particularly unpleasant) in a strong infusion of liquorice root, as advised by Doctor Lewis; but, for this purpose, Doctor Lind, and other practitioners have found milk to answer best, to which six drops of essence of cinnamon or nutmegs, may be added. When the bark, in substance, cannot be made to stay on the stomach, the essential salt of bark, No. 24, affords a very proper substitute, and may be employed with equal advantage. During the hot fit it may be given with a tablespoonful of the aerated Mindererus's spirit, No. 8.

The Peruvian bark, as a strengthening medicine, is now more generally prescribed than any

other of the class of tonics. In mortifications, putrid sore throat, and malignant fevers, it is almost the only remedy that can be employed, taken from twenty to forty grains, every two or three hours, in a glass of port wine, or camphorated julep. In a great variety of diseases, as St. Vitus's dance, scrophula, or King's evil, rickets, nervous irritability, indigestion, hysteric fits, and dropsy, it is likewise administered with great advantage, to which a dessert-spoonful of steel wine will prove a great auxiliary. Dr. Lind observes, that when the bark is entirely nauseated from a weakness of the stomach, or from an aversion of the patient to the taste of the medicine, it will be proper to administer it in glysters; as, two drachms in half a pint of beef tea every three hours, in which form it has proved as efficacious as when taken into the stomach. In coughs, asthma, consumption of the lungs, and difficulty of breathing, the bark is inadmissible.

The decoction of bark is made by boiling one ounce of bruised bark in a pint and half of distilled water, in a close covered vessel, for ten minutes. The liquor should be strained, while hot, through a coarse strainer, and used while turbid, for if suffered to stand till clear, the most efficacious part of the bark (the resin), will subside. An infusion, both in boiling and cold water, has been recommended in preference to

the decoction, under an idea that the volatile and most active parts escape by boiling; but if a close vessel be employed this objection is obviated.

It is much to be doubted, whether the Peruvian bark possesses any real advantages over the bitter astringent barks of this country, particularly that of the willow, oak, and horse chesnut trees.

The Rev. Mr. Stone, some time since, published a favourable account of the efficacy of the willow bark; which has been confirmed by two foreign physicians of repute, Gunz, and Clossius, and several recent publications by physicians of hospitals, who have had an opportunity of putting it to the test of experience. At the Hereford infirmary it was much employed in conjunction with the oak bark, in the proportion of one part of the latter to two of the former; and which certainly answered as well as the Peruvian bark, and in some instances better; a fact that may be turned to a considerable diminution of expence in the medical departments of hospitals. About four years since I published a concise account of the efficacy of these barks, and gave many formulæ for their use, in a work entitled the "*Medical and Chirurgical Pharmacopœia*" for the Use of Hospitals.

No. 34, SENNA LEAVES.

In domestic medicine senna leaves have been long employed as a purgative medicine for children. It may be disguised by infusing two drachms, with a little bohea tea, in a quarter of a pint of boiling water, and adding, when poured off clear, a little brown sugar and milk; the ill flavour of the senna will thus be so far covered, that children may easily be induced to take it for tea—a few coriander or caraway seeds may be added, to correct its griping quality. It is less efficacious than the basilic powder.

To adults, senna is generally given in conjunction with the more active purges, as Rochelle salts, No. 2. (See Aperient Mixture, No. 51.)

No. 35, MANNA

Is chiefly used as an ingredient in the aperient mixture of senna, and Rochelle salts. (See Aperient Mixture, No. 51.)

Manna being very subject to generate acidity and wind in the bowels, is by no means so good a purgative medicine for infants, as rhubarb combined with magnesia.

No. 36, GUM ARABIC,

Dissolved, from one to two ounces, in a pint of common or barley water, and taken to the extent of a tea-cupful, frequently furnishes a very excellent lubricating beverage, in cases of inflammation of the kidneys, or bladder, bloody urine, arising from gravel or other causes; and when the natural mucus of the intestines is abraded, as in cases of dysentery and violent diarrhœa, or looseness. With the addition of a drachm of nitre, it will prove very serviceable in stranguary, and heat of urine, whether simple or otherwise. (See Diuretic Powder, No. 78.) In pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs, half an ounce of liquorice, boiled with the barley, in lieu of the nitre, affords a very useful pectoral drink.

No. 37, PURIFIED NITRE,

In doses of six or ten grains, dissolved in water, Mindererus's spirit, No. 8, or camphorated julep, No. 30, possesses both an aperient and cooling quality, which quenches thirst, abates febrile heat, and allays inordinate motions of the circulation. It is likewise serviceable in stranguary. (See Gum Arabic, No. 36.) In pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs, it is, as

Dr. Cullen observes, a very doubtful remedy; and although it may succeed in abating the constitutional fever, by provoking cough, it is frequently productive of much local mischief.

A solution of nitre in water, in the proportion of a drachm to half a pint, makes a useful gargle for dispersing inflammation in the throat and mouth. (See Discutient Gargle, No. 81.)

No. 38, CREAM OF TARTAR,

Being a mild, cooling aperient, is deservedly much employed as an alterative medicine for children, in inflammatory eruptions of the skin, and impurities of the blood and juices, to which an equal quantity of sulphur will prove an useful adjunct.

The most convenient and pleasant method of giving cream of tartar and sulphur to children, is in the form of an electuary made with a sufficient quantity of honey, of which a tea-spoonful may be given every morning with a draught of sassafras tea; if it should not prove sufficiently active, half a drachm of jalap powder may be added to an electuary of an ounce of washed sulphur, and the same quantity of cream of tartar.

Cream of tartar is by no means so active and efficacious a purge in dropsical complaints, as the basilic powder, No. 29. or jalap, combined with calomel, (See No. 27.) which produce co-

pious discharges from the system, without encreasing its debility, the common effect of large doses of cream of tartar.

The imperial drink, which has been much recommended as a beverage to keep the body cool during an increased heat of the atmosphere, and quenching the thirst, attendant on inflammatory fevers, is made in the following manner:—Take of cream of tartar three drachms, the rind of one lemon, pour on them (in an earthen vessel,) one quart of boiling water, and, when cold, add a sufficiency of white sugar, to render it palatable.

Cream of tartar is likewise one of the articles used by Dr. Hahnemann, to make his celebrated test for detecting lead fraudulently added to port wine, to destroy its acidity, and increase its astringency; a practice so prevalent among dealers in that article, and attended with such injurious effects on the system, that the method of discovering the fraud cannot be too generally known.—This test is prepared as follows:—Two drachms of cream of tartar, one drachm of dry liver of sulphur, are to be shaken in a two-ounce phial, filled with distilled water, well corked; the phial is to be occasionally shaken, for about ten minutes; when the powder has subsided, decant the clear liquor, and preserve it in a well-stopped bottle for use: from sixteen to twenty drops of this liquor are to be dropped into a small glass filled with the suspected wine; if the wine

turns blackish or muddy, and deposits a dark-coloured sediment, the adulteration with lead is proved, but not otherwise. Cream of tartar in powder is sometimes adulterated with sulphate of potash, which may be detected, by pouring on half an ounce of the suspected cream of tartar two or three ounces of pure water, shake the mixture frequently, and let it stand one hour; the sulphate of potash being more soluble than the cream of tartar, will be taken up, and may be known by the bitter taste of the solution, and by a precipitate, on adding muriate of barytes, which will be insoluble in muriatic acid.

No. 39, WASHED SULPHUR,

In doses of half a drachm to a drachm, operates as an aperient medicine, and, by considerably increasing the insensible perspiration, have proved of great utility in cutaneous obstructions and foulness. It is given with advantage in conjunction with cream of tartar. (See No. 38.) From its gentle purgative property, which it effects without griping or irritation, it has proved particularly serviceable in piles, combined with the lenitive electuary, to which a little nitre may be added, if attended with much heat in the part. (See Electuary for the Piles, No. 74; and Aperient Sulphurous Water, under the head of Rochelle Salts, No. 2.)

In chronic rheumatism, and gouty affections, a tea-spoonful of washed sulphur, with the same quantity of the farina of the Jamaica ginger, taken every morning in a glass of milk, has proved an excellent remedy.

Sulphur, although a medicine of no considerable efficacy, has the property of restraining that of some of the most powerful kind. Mercury, by an admixture with it, is almost rendered inert: thus, Æthrop's mineral, which is composed of equal parts of flowers of sulphur and mercury, may be given to the extent of sulphur itself, without manifesting any operation on the system than might be expected from the exhibition of sulphur alone; and, when mercury has exceeded in operation, sulphur is employed to abate its violence. The corrosive poison, arsenic, by the addition of sulphur, becomes almost innocent; but, for counteracting the effects of this poison, taken into the stomach, the liver of sulphur should be used, on account of its solubility in water, and its more rapid action on mineral poisons. (See Treatment of Mineral Poisons.)

Washed Sulphur is a better medicine than the milk of sulphur, being free from the lime which is always to be found, more or less, combined with the latter, and which in cases of piles, will produce much irritation, and even inflammation; and in no case is it entitled to the preference.

No. 40, LINT

Is very useful for dressing and cleaning sores or ulcers; applied dry, it will destroy fungous flesh, and with a little pressure stop the bleeding of superficial wounds, and the punctures of leeches.

No. 41, SPERMACETI POWDER,

Taken from a scruple, to half a drachm, with the same quantity of sugar candy powdered, and ten drops of antimonial wine, No. 14. every two or three hours, will prove particularly serviceable in recent coughs, pleurisy, or inflammation of the lungs. (See Cough Linctus, No. 76.)

No. 42, ANTIMONIAL FEBRIFUGE POWDER.

This medicine has long been sold under the name of Dr. James's Fever Powders. The best method of administering this powder is in the form of pills, as recommended by Dr. Blane, by making a drachm into twelve pills, with a little conserve of roses or hips, and giving one every four or five hours, in inflammatory fevers, rheumatism, &c. Dr. Monro very judiciously cautions practitioners against its indiscriminate use in every species of fever. "I have known," says the learned Doctor, "several instances where it has been given in putrid ulcerated sore throats, and in low fevers, and it has brought

on such a purging as to hurry the patients to their graves in a short time." (See Tartarised Antimony Wine, No. 14.)

Dr. James's fever powders were sold in small packets, containing two papers, for the price of 2*s.* 3*d.*; and although they may be put up for one penny, Mr. Newbery, who claims the exclusive privilege of preparing them, dissatisfied with such a profit, has lately added three-pence to each packet. Mr. Perring, of Southampton Street, who made them for the late Dr. James many years, sells them (equally well prepared,) at 1s. 3d. a packet, which yields a profit of eleven-pence in a shilling. Such practice, admitting the article to be good, in point of price must be considered a shameful imposition on the public, and should not be sanctioned by the Legislature.

No. 43, PLASTER SKIN,

For spreading the blistering and other plasters on.

No. 44, COURT PLASTER,

For recent superficial cuts. Care should be taken to bring the edges of the wound in close contact, and, if attended with much pain, the surrounding part may be frequently washed with spirit of wine; if the wound be deep, diachylon on leather will answer best.

No. 45, BLISTERING PLASTER.

If much heat be employed in spreading this plaster, the stimulating properties of the ingredients will be destroyed: it should be only warmed at a distance from the fire, till it is sufficiently soft to spread with the spatula, or end of the thumb.

If the speedy operation of a blister be required, the part on which it is to be applied should be previously rubbed with an onion, or the acetic acid. A little camphor scraped over the surface of the blister will often prevent stranguary.

The discharge and inflammation produced by blisters are extremely serviceable in internal and deep-seated inflammations, rheumatism, apoplexy, palsy, and in almost all affections of the brain, and diseases of the joints.

No. 46, SPERMACETI OINTMENT,

Spread on lint, is an useful dressing for the purpose of healing blisters, but when the discharge is deemed necessary, the savin ointment, No. 48. should be used. It is likewise useful for softening the skin, and healing chaps. This ointment, coloured with alkanet root, is the common lip salve.

No. 47, SQUILL PILL,

Taken from ten to fifteen grains, twice a day, is a powerful medicine in promoting expectoration, attenuating viscid phlegm in the primæ viæ, and lungs, and increasing the secretion of urine; hence it is a valuable medicine in asthma, particularly when attended with an effusion of water in the chest.

The squill pill, combined with calomel, as recommended by Dr. Cam, an eminent physician in Hereford, is an efficacious and valuable medicine in dropsy, either of the chest, belly, or extremities, in the following proportions:—Take of squill pill two drachms, calomel a scruple, mix well together, and form into thirty pills, of which three may be taken twice a day, with a wine-glassful of the tincture of the essential salt of bark, made with port wine, as under No. 24. If they should not operate so as to produce four motions a day, a scruple of gamboge may be added with great advantage. (See Pills for the Dropsy, No. 69.)

No. 48, SAVIN OINTMENT.

This ointment was first recommended by Mr. Crowther, an eminent surgeon in London, for keeping up the discharge of blisters in cases of

diseased joints; in the successful treatment of which he has been particularly signalized in the profession. It has since been used by Mr. Abernethy, in the treatment of the lumbar abscess. Being exempt from the unpleasant effects of the Spanish fly ointment, in not producing strangury or much local irritation, it is now very generally used for the purpose of keeping up the discharge of blisters, in those acute and chronic diseases, where it is requisite for some time; but, in paralytic cases, when the irritation of a blister is more required than the discharge, the Spanish-fly ointment should be employed.

No. 49, GOULARD'S EXTRACT OF LEAD,

In the proportion of twenty drops to half a pint of pure water, with half a drachm of laudanum, makes a good discutient lotion for inflammatory affection of the eyes; but for bruises, slight burns, scalds, excoriations, and inflammations in other parts of the body, treble the quantity of the extract may be employed, and three drachms of rectified spirit of wine, or three ounces of white-wine vinegar, substituted for the laudanum.

This extract is solely used externally, and as colicky and paralytic affections frequently arise from a portion of the lead being taken up into

the system, by the absorbent vessels, so its application to a large surface of the body, or its continuance many days are equally improper. In such cases, white-wine vinegar, diluted with the same quantity of water, answers all the good purposes of the extract without producing any of its ill effects, neither is it a safe article to be kept in a medicine chest, as from its resemblance in colour to many tinctures, and medicated wines, it might in a hurry be mistaken for them.

Dr. Aikin, Percival, and Sir G. Baker, notice the disagreeable symptoms produced from an absorption of lead into the system. The last-mentioned author relates that twelve infants died at Dartmouth in convulsions, occasioned by an ointment made of Goulard's extract, applied to the nipples of their nurses, sold by a woman famous for her skill in the treatment of sore nipples; and it is to be feared that those accidents frequently occur from the use of the advertised nipple ointment, the basis of which is lead. A child having died rather suddenly of convulsions in January last, and understanding that the mother had applied a favourite ointment of the nurses to disperse an inflammatory tumour in the breast, I was induced to examine the ointment, and question the nurse respecting it. She declared that it was perfectly innocent, and that it did not contain a particle of lead, but that it

was made of *lytharge of gold**, vinegar and spermaceti ointment, which form the most poisonous preparations of lead that can be made, and which I have no doubt proved fatal to the child. The dusting of children with white lead, or ceruss powder, as nurses term it, is adangerous practice, and no doubt often the cause of convulsive fits and cholicky pains in the bowels. For the means of detecting lead in wine, see Dr. Hahnemann's test, under the head of Cream of Tartar, No. 33; and for counteracting its effect when swallowed, see Treatment of Mineral Poisons.

* It is strange that an ointment of this kind should be recommended for sore niples by Dr. James Hamilton, of Edinburgh, in the last edition of his "Treatise on the Management of Female Complaints, and Children in early Infancy."

A Collection of approved Family Prescriptions, or Useful Compounds of the foregoing Medicines.

INTERNAL REMEDIES.

[The numerical arrangement is continued, to prevent any mistake arising from the references in the Catalogue of Diseases, and Index of Remedies.]

MIXTURES.

No. 50, STOMACHIC MIXTURE.

TAKE of the Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm, dissolve in half a pint of distilled water, then add
Tincture of Rhubarb, No. 4, one ounce.

Two or three table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day. If attended with an acidity in the stomach, half a drachm of salt of wormwood, No. 21, or a drachm of calcined magnesia, No. 1, may be added.

No. 51, APERIENT MIXTURE.

Take of Senna Leaves, No. 34, three drachms, infuse in a quarter of a pint of boiling water, for twenty minutes, then strain, and add

Rochelle, Brazil, or Cheltenham Salts, No. 2, and
Compound Tincture of Senna, No. 6, of each one ounce.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken every two or three hours, till it operates.

In cases of obstinate costiveness or colic, half an ounce of castor oil, No. 3, with the use of the laxative clyster, No. 86, will much accelerate its operation.

No. 52, SUDORIFIC MIXTURE.

Take of Aerated Mindererus's Spirit, No. 8, three ounces,
Ipecacuanha Powder, No. 23, twenty grains,
Distilled Water, five ounces,
Essence of Peppermint, No. 19, fifteen drops. Mix.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken every two hours, till it produces the desired effect.

All medicines administered to promote sensible or insensible perspiration, should be assisted in their operation by the plentiful use of tepid drinks, such as warm barley water, gruel, tea, or the like.

This is a good sudorific medicine for inflammatory fevers, pleurisy, and acute rheumatism; with the addition of forty drops of laudanum, it will be similar to Dover's sweating powder.

No. 53, CRETACEOUS MIXTURE.

Take of the Compound Cretaceous Powder, No. 31, two drachms,
Gum Arabic, No. 36, three drachms,
Laudanum, No. 18, twenty drops,
Pure Water, six ounces,
Essence of Cinnamon, No. 20, forty drops.

Dissolve the gum arabic in an ounce of water, and rub with it the compound powder, then add the other ingredients.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken after every loose stool, in cases of diarrhœa or dysentery. (See Compound Cretacious Powder, No. 31.)

No. 54, ANTIHYSTERIC MIXTURE.

Take of Tincture of Asafœtida, No. 17, four drachms,
Sal Volatile, No. 11, two drachms,
Camphorated Julep, No. 30, six ounces. Mix.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken every three or four hours, for hysteric, epileptic, or fainting fits, and spasmodic asthma.

No. 55, COUGH MIXTURE.

Take of Tartarised Antimony Wine, No. 14, two drachms,

Of Gum Arabic, No. 36, four drachms,
Laudanum, No. 18, twenty drops,
Pure Water, six ounces. Mix.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken every two hours for recent coughs, pleurisy, and inflammation of the lungs. (See Coughs.)

No. 56, CAMPHORATED BARK MIXTURE.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm,
Dissolve in Camphorated Julep, No. 30, six ounces,
Dulcified Spirit of Nitre, No. 13, two drachms. Mix.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken every two or three hours, in low infectious fevers, putrid sore throat, mortifications, and in all cases where the use of a strengthening medicine is indicated.

No. 57, ASTHMATIC MIXTURE.

Take of Paregoric Elixir, No. 9, one ounce,
Camphorated Julep, No. 30, six ounces,
Tincture of Asafœtida, No. 17, half an ounce, or
Tincture of Myrrh, No. 15, one ounce,
Honey, half an ounce. Mix.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken with ten grains (in two pills) of the squill pill, No. 47, for diffi-

culty of breathing and spasmodic asthma. A tea-spoonful of æther, No. 12, with fifteen drops of laudanum, No. 18, taken during the paroxysm of asthma, will afford considerable relief. (See Asthma.)

No. 58, GOUT MIXTURE.

Take of Volatile Tincture of Guaiacum, No. 32, six drachms,
Camphorated Mixture, No. 30, six ounces,
Tincture of Rhubarb, No. 4, half an ounce,
Honey, half an ounce;
Rub the tincture of guaiacum with the honey, in the glass mortar, then add the other articles by degrees.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken every four or five hours. (See Æther, No. 12, and Gout.)

No. 59, ANTISPASMODIC MIXTURE.

Take of Æther, No. 12, half an ounce,
Paregoric Elixir, No. 9, one ounce,
Tincture of Asafœtida, No. 17, half an ounce.
Distilled Water, six ounces. Mix, and keep well corked.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken every three or four hours, for the colic and other spasmodic affections.

Such medicines should not be administered till an evacuation be procured from the bowels, by means of castor oil, No. 3, or the aperient mixture, No. 51, and clyster, No. 86.

No. 60, ANTIRHEUMATIC MIXTURE.

Take of Volatile Tincture of Guaiacum, No. 32, one ounce,
Honey, half an ounce,
Camphorated Julep, No. 30, six ounces,
Laudanum, No. 18, twenty drops,
Rub the tincture of guaiacum with the honey, in a glass mortar, and add the other articles by degrees.

Two table-spoonfuls, four times a day, for chronic rheumatism. (See Rheumatism.)

No. 61, NERVOUS MIXTURE.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm, dissolve in
Camphorated Julep, No. 30, six ounces, then add
Spirit of Sal Volatile, No. 11, two drachms,
Spirit of Lavender, No. 7, three drachms.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken with three of valerian tea, in nervous irritability, and periodical head-achs.

No. 62, ABSORBENT MIXTURE.

Take of Calcined Magnesia, No. 1, one drachm,
Tincture of Rhubarb, No. 4, two drachms,
Laudanum, No. 18, eight drops,
Pure Water, two ounces,
Essence of Mint, No. 19, four drops. Mix.

A tea-spoonful to be given in cases of gripes, and flatulency, affecting children; if attended with purging, a drachm of the compound cretacious powder, No. 31, may be added, in lieu of the calcined magnesia, or two tea-spoonfuls of the cretaceous mixture, No. 53, every three or four hours.

This mixture is more efficacious and not injurious as the nostrums advertised under the names of Dalby's Carminative and Godfrey's Cordial, the frequent use of which by nurses, for the purpose of procuring sleep for the children submitted to their care, (that they might rest themselves,) have been productive of fatal affections of the lungs and bowels. (See Treatment of Children.)

No. 63, STIMULATING MIXTURE.

Take of Horse Radish Root, sliced,
Mustard Seed, bruised,

Of each one ounce; infuse in a pint of boiling water in a gentle heat, for twelve hours, then strain and add

Spirit of Lavender, No. 7, two ounces.

A wine-glassful to be taken three or four times a day, with thirty drops of the volatile tincture of guaiacum, No. 32. The volatile liniment, No. 92, should be well rubbed on the parts affected, with a flesh brush, and afterwards covered with flannel.

The mustard poultice, No. 100, is an excellent stimulating application, and may be applied frequently so as to keep up a slight inflammation on the skin.

No. 64, FOR SCROPHULA, OR KING'S EVIL.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm,

Prepared Soda, two drachms,

Dissolve in a pint of distilled Water, then add

Huxham's Tincture of Bark, No. 5, one ounce.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day.

This mixture was often prescribed in scrophulous affections, by Dr. Symonds, an able practitioner in Hereford, and Mr. Cam, an emi-

nent surgeon in Bath; who found it particularly serviceable in correcting the scrophulous diathesis; and it certainly has answered better than any of the new remedies suggested by Dr. Beddoes, and other late writers on that disease. (See Scrophula.)

No. 65, FOR THE HOOPING COUGH.

Take of Ipecacuanha Powder, No. 23, ten grains,
Tincture of Asafœtida, No. 17, one drachm,
Laudanum, No. 18, ten drops,
Pure Water, two ounces.

To a child of two years old, a tea-spoonful every three hours, increasing ten drops for every additional year. (See Hooping Cough.)

No. 66, TONIC MIXTURE.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, two drachms,
Dissolve in twelve ounces of water, and add
Huxham's Tincture of Bark, No. 5, one ounce,
Sp. Sal Volatile, No. 11, two drachms.

Two or three table-spoonfuls to be taken every three or four hours, in cases of relaxation, and weakness of the system.

No. 67, SALINE MIXTURE.

Take of Crystallised Acid of Lemon, or Concrete Acid of Tartar, No. 22, one drachm, or
Fresh Lemon Juice, an ounce and half,
Salt of Wormwood, No. 21, one drachm,
White Sugar, three drachms,
Pure Water, twelve ounces,
Essence of Peppermint, No. 19, thirty drops. Mix.

A tea-cupful to be taken frequently in inflammatory fevers. (See No. 22.)

PILLS.

No. 68, ASTHMATIC PILLS.

Take of Squill Pill, No 47, two drachms, divide into twenty four pills.

Two to be taken twice or thrice a day, with the asthmatic mixture, No. 57. (See Asthma.)

No. 69, FOR DROPSY.

Take of Squill Pill, No. 47, two drachms,
Calomel, No. 27, ten grains,
Gamboge Powder, a scruple.
Mix well together, and divide into thirty-six pills.

Three to be taken twice a day, with a wine-glassful of the tonic mixture, No. 66. (See Dropsy.)

No. 70, FOR THE GRAVEL.

Take of Prepared Natron, (that has been coarsely pounded, and exposed to a warm dry air, till it has crumbled into a white powder) two drachms,
Spanish Soap, two drachms, with
Oil of Juniper; make into sixty pills.

Of which three are to be taken three times a day. When the mephitic alkaline water, (noticed under the head of Salt of Wormwood No. 21.) disagrees with the patient, Dr. Beddoes recommends pills made of the prepared natron.

No. 71, FOR FEMALE DEBILITY AND RELAXATION.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm,

Salt of Steel, a scruple,
Gum Olbanum, one drachm, with simple syrup; make a mass, and divide into thirty-six pills.

Three to be taken twice a day. (See Whites.)

No. 72, BILIOUS PILLS.

Take of Rhubarb, No. 25, two drachms,
Calomel, No. 27, half a drachm,
Essence of Peppermint, No. 19, ten drops;
With a little syrup, make into thirty pills.

Three to be taken every third morning, with two drachms of Rochelle, Brazil, or Cheltenham salts.

No. 73, CATHARTIC PILLS.

Take of Cathartic Extract, one drachm,
Calomel, No. 27, fifteen grains;
Mix, and form into fifteen pills.

Three to be taken for a dose, in obstinate constipation of the bowels, and redundancy of bile.

ELECTUARIES.

No. 74, FOR THE PILES.

Take of Washed Sulphur, No. 39, six drachms,
Lenitive Electuary, two ounces,
Nitre Powder, No. 37, one drachm.

A tea-spoonful to be taken twice a day. (See Pile Ointment, No. 94.)

No. 75, FOR THE TAPE WORM.

Take of Granulated Tin, six ounces,
Conserve of Wormwood, three ounces,
Mix.

A large tea-spoonful to be taken every morning, with a draught of lime water. (See Basilic Powder, No. 29.)

No. 76, COUGH LINCTUS.

Take of Spermaceti Powder, No. 41, two drachms,
Oil of Almonds, three drachms,
Conserve of Hips, half an ounce,
Syrup of Wild Poppies, six drachms,
Ipecacuanha Powder, No. 23, a scruple,

Elixir of Vitriol, No. 16, ten drops.
Mix.

A tea-spoonful to be taken every two or three hours, or when the cough is troublesome.

POWDERS.

No. 77, EMETIC POWDER.

Take of Ipecacuanha, No. 23, a scruple,
Emetic Tartar, No. 28, one grain,
Mix. (See No. 23, and No. 28.)

No. 78, DIURETIC POWDER.

Take of Purified Nitre, No. 37, one drachm,
Gum Arabic, No. 36, three drachms.
Mix,

and divide equally into twelve papers—one to be taken three times a day, with a draught of barley water, for strangury, heat of urine, and gravel.

No. 79, WORM POWDER.

See Basilic Powder, No. 29.

No. 80, TONIC POWDER.

Take of Peruvian Bark Powder, No. 33, one ounce,

Farina, of the Jamaica Ginger, one drachm. Mix,

and divide into twelve papers—one to be taken every, or every other hour, in intermittent fevers. (See Nos. 24, and 33.)

GARGLES.

No. 81, DISCUTIENT GARGLE.

Take of Purified Nitre, No. 37, one drachm,
Gum Arabic, No. 36, three drachms,

Dissolve in half a pint of pure water. To be used frequently for inflammatory sore throats.

No. 82, ACIDULATED GARGLE.

Take of Red Rose Leaves, two drachms,
Infuse in a pint of boiling water till cold, then strain, and add
Acid Elixir of Vitriol, No. 16, fifteen drops, for inflammation of the tonsils and mouth.

No. 83, ASTRINGENT GARGLE.

Take of Oak Bark, half an ounce,
Boil in a pint of water for a quarter of an hour, then strain, and add
Alum, two drachms,
Red Port Wine, four ounces.

To be used every two or three hours, in cases of relaxation, or falling down of the soft palate.

No. 84, DETERGENT GARGLE.

Add to the Acidulated Gargle, No. 82,
Tincture of Myrrh, No. 15, and
Honey, of each half an ounce.

For the malignant ulcerated sore throat and thrush.

CLYSTERS.

No. 85, ANODYNE CLYSTER.

Take of Starch Jelly, half a pint,
Laudanum, No. 18, forty drops. Mix.

The whole to be injected by means of a pipe

and bladder, in cases of dysentery, or a violent purging, and pain in the bowels.

No. 86. LAXATIVE CLYSTER.

Take of Rochelle Salts, No. 2, or
Epsom Salts, two ounces;

Dissolve in three quarters of a pint of warm gruel or broth, with fresh butter, or sweet oil, three ounces.

No. 87, ANTISPASMODIC CLYSTER.

Take of Tincture of Asafœtida, No. 17, half an ounce,
Laudanum, forty drops,
Gruel, half a pint. Mix.

For spasmodic affections of the bowels.

No. 88, NUTRIENT CLYSTER.

Take of Strong Beef Tea, twelve ounces,
Thicken with Hartshorn Shavings, or Arrow Root.

In cases of extreme debility of the system, or when the patient cannot take food by the mouth through an obstruction in the throat.

It should be thrown up with a flexible tube, longer than the clyster pipes in common use, and with a gentle pressure, insinuated pretty

high up, that it may be applied to as great a number of the mouths of the lecteals as possible, for the purpose of being taken up to nourish the body. If any irritation be produced, either from the rude introduction of the tube, or sudden distension of the intestine, the intention of the injection will be defeated by being hastily evacuated, and has often been productive of serious consequences, by bringing on a diarrhœa, which the reduced state of the patient could ill bear.

EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS.

LOTIONS AND EMBROCATIONS.

No. 89, EYE WATER.

Take of Goulard's Extract of Lead, No. 49, ten drops,
White Wine Vinegar, two drachms,
Laudanum, No. 18, thirty drops,

Pure Water, eight ounces. Mix.

For inflammation of the eye, or eye-lids.

To be applied by means of folds of old fine linen, and kept constantly moist and cold.

If the inflammation runs high, the aperient mixture, No. 51, a blister to the nape of the neck, and leeches to the eyelids, should be likewise employed.

No. 90, ASTRINGENT EYE WATER.

Take of Blue Vitriol, five grains,
Dissolve in four ounces of pure water, and add
Laudanum, thirty drops.

To be dropped on the affected eye, three or four times a day, for films or specks.

No. 91, DISCUTIENT LOTION.

Take of Camphor, No. 30, two drachms,
Dissolve in rectified spirit of wine, four ounces, then add
White Wine Vinegar, a pint.

For strains, bruises, and inflammation, arising from accidents.

It may be conveniently applied in the form of a poultice, by adding a sufficient quantity of bran to make it of a proper consistence, and pour on the surface a fresh quantity of the em-

brocation, when the bran gets dry, or feels warm to the patient.

No. 92, VOLATILE LINIMENT.

Take of Spirit of Hartshorn, No. 10, six drachms,
Olive Oil, an ounce; shake well together.

This is a good stimulating liniment for chronic rheumatism, paralytic numbness, and diseased joints.

No. 93, LINIMENT FOR BURNS AND SCALDS.

Take of Linseed Oil, and Lime Water, of each four ounces,
Laudanum, No. 18, half an ounce. Mix.

To be applied by means of lint, or soft old linen: or

Take of Expressed Juice of Potatoes, half a pint,
Spirit of Wine, three ounces,
Liquid Laudanum, No. 18, half an ounce. Mix.

To be applied as above.

The use of this liniment in scalds and burns, has lately been much extolled by the first medical characters.

OINTMENTS.

No. 94. PILE OINTMENT.

Take of Spermaceti Ointment, No. 46, one ounce,
Goulard's Extract of Lead, No. 49, fifteen drops,
Laudanum, No. 18, one drachm. Mix well together.

(See Electuary, No. 74.)

No. 95, ALTERATIVE OINTMENT.

Take of Calomel, No. 27, one drachm,
Spermaceti Ointment, No. 46, one ounce. Mix well together.

For the scald head, to be rubbed over the part affected every morning. (See Nos. 27, 28, 38, and 39.)

No. 96, ITCH OINTMENT.

Take of Washed Sulphur, No. 39, two ounces,
Hog's Lard, four ounces,
Oil of Lavender, sixty drops. Mix.

To be well rubbed on the parts affected, every night, till the eruption cease to be troublesome.

The internal exhibition of sulphur, (See No. 39.) should accompany the use of this ointment.

PLASTERS.

No. 97, PECTORAL PLASTER.

Take of Burgundy Pitch, two ounces,
Blistering Salve, No. 45, three drachms,
Camphor, No. 30, one drachm.

Melt the Burgundy pitch by a gentle heat, and when cooling, add the blistering salve, and lastly, the camphor in powder. To be spread on leather, and applied over the breast bone, in cases of asthma, difficulty of breathing, hooping cough, and consumption of the lungs.

No. 98, CORN PLASTER.

Take of Hemlock Plaster, with Gum Ammoniac, an ounce,

Camphor, one drachm. Mix, and
spread on thin leather.

The application of this plaster will not only alleviate the pain attendant on corns, but often succeed in their removal. (See Corns.)

No. 99. DICUTIENT PLASTER.

Take of Soap and Hemlock Plasters, of each
three ounces,
Camphor, two drachms.

Melt the two plasters together, by a gentle heat, and afterwards add the camphor in powder. To be spread on leather, for rheumatic pains, indolent tumours, and chronic enlargement of joints.

CATAPLASMS OR POULTICES.

No. 100. MUSTARD POULTICE.

Take of Flour of Mustard, one part,
Oatmeal, three parts,
Vinegar, a sufficient quantity to form
a poultice.

Boil the oatmeal and vinegar together, and afterwards sprinkle in the flour of mustard. To be applied warm.

No. 101, EMOLIENT POULTICE.

Take of Pure Water, half a pint,
Crumbs of White Bread, a sufficiency to form a poultice, then add
Goulard's Extract of Lead, No. 49, forty drops. Mix well together.

Milk, so much employed for making discutient poultices, by soon turning sour, from the heat of the body, becomes a bad external application for inflammations.

No. 102, STIMULATING POULTICE.

Take of Oatmeal, half a pound,
Strong Beer Grounds, a sufficiency to form a poultice, then add one drachm of
Camphor, dissolved in half an ounce of Spirit of Turpentine. Mix well together.

To be applied warm, for the purpose of promoting the maturation of indolent tumours, or boils,

The part should be frequently fomented, or rubbed with the volatile liniment, No. 92.

No. 103, INDIAN ARROW ROOT.

Has lately been imported into this country, from the West Indies, as a nutritious food for children and phthisical and convalescent patients, and as such is now very generally recommended by practitioners in medicine, in preference to Sago, Tapioca, or any of the farinacious substances.

The jelly of this root is made in the following manner:—To a dessert spoonful of the powdered root, add as much cold water as will make it into a soft paste, then pour on half a pint of boiling water, stir it briskly, and boil it a few minutes, when it will become a clear smooth jelly: a little white sugar, and a glass of port or sherry wine may be added; but for children, a drop or two of essence of caraway seeds or cinnamon will answer best, wine being apt to turn sour in the stomach, and thus disagree with the bowels. Fresh milk may be substituted for water.

The tendency of arrow root to ferment in the stomach of weakly people and children, may be counteracted, by blending with it an animal jelly, which, at the same time, adds to its nutritious properties.

Mother's milk, when good, appears to be similar to an admixture of this animal and vegetable jelly; and may prove more beneficial than the milk of unhealthy women.

Dr. Cadogan much recommends this combination for children, and attributes one-ninth of their diseases to their being fed so much on vegetables, which, by turning sour, disengaging air in the stomach and bowels, often produce obstinate purging and gripes, and not unfrequently convulsive fits. (See Nursing and the Treatment of Children.)

The stag's-horn jelly answers for this purpose best, and may be blended with the arrow root, in the following manner: Take of the true stag's-horn, half an ounce, boil in a pint of water for fifteen minutes, then strain, and add two dessert-spoonfuls of arrow root powder, previously well mixed with a tea-cup full of fresh milk, stir them briskly together, and boil for a few minutes; if the child should be much troubled with flatulency, a few drops of essence of caraway seeds may be added, in preference to wine or spirit. The shavings of calves' bones being cheaper and whiter than those of the stag's-horn, are generally sold for them; but they do not impart that wholesome nutritious jelly as the stag's-horn, being deprived of their mucilage, by the process the bones are subjected to, for the purpose of rendering them white.

The arrow root likewise has been imitated, by a preparation from potatoes and wheat; and even that imported from the West Indies, adulterated with casada, which forms a turbid jelly, and often produces very serious effects on the stomach and bowels of infants.

Arrow root was first imported into this country as a substitute for starch, when wheat was exorbitantly dear. At the first public sale, a druggist, thinking it would answer better as an article of diet than tapioca or sago, commissioned his broker to make a purchase at 3s. and and 3s. 4d. per lb. by which the good intention of its importation was frustrated, and instead of the public being supplied with it at 1s. per lb. it was retailed by him at 8s. per lb. Other venders, however, satisfied with a more moderate profit, sold it at 5s.—the best is now reduced to 4s. per lb.; and as the consumption is considerably declining, it will no doubt find its proper level with starch, so that no invalids will be precluded from the use of it.

No. 104, LIME WATER.

Take of Quick Lime, four ounces,
Pure Water, six pints. Mix.

Set it aside in a covered vessel, for one hour; then pour off the liquor, which keep in a bottle well corked.

In weakness of the stomach, accompanied with acidity and flatulency, this affords an excellent vehicle for Huxham's tincture of bark, No. 5, or the essential salt of bark, No. 24.

Lime water being capable of dissolving mucus in the stomach, a redundancy of which affords a nidus or lodgement for worms, will prove a great auxiliary to the vermifuge medicines, (See Basalic Powder, No. 29, and No. 75.) in the quantity of a tea-cup full, twice or thrice a day.

Lime water has been much celebrated as an alterative in scrophula and scurvy, which further experience has not confirmed.

The addition of a table-spoonful of lime water to half a pint of milk, makes it sit easy on the stomach of weakly people, that could not otherwise bear milk.

No. 105, OPODELDOC,

Is a very useful external application for bruises, dispersing inflammation and tumours, and against rheumatic pains, and paralytic numbness. If attended with much pain, a tea-spoonful of laudanum, No. 18, may be added to two table-spoonfuls of opodeldoc, which forms the Anodyne Liniment, commonly called Anodyne Balsam.

This opodeldoc, with an increased quantity

of soap, congealed by heat, is sold under the name of Dr. Steer's Opodeldoc, which, instead of improving the liniment, renders it less penetrating, and the friction that is required with it, is often productive of mischief.

No. 106, LENITIVE ELECTUARY

Has been long and very deservedly esteemed as a convenient and gentle laxative medicine, in habitual costiveness, piles, &c. taken to the extent of a tea-spoonful occasionally. (See Electuary for the Piles, No. 74.)

No. 107, DIACHYLON PLASTER,

Spread on leather, is a common and good application for slight contusions, excoriations of the skin, and chilblains.

No. 108, GUM PLASTER

Is an useful application for promoting the suppuration of biles, and abscesses, spread on leather.

No. 109, VITRIOLIC ACID

Is one of the articles recommended by Dr. James Carmichael Smyth, for purifying the atmosphere from contagious matter, and thus preventing the progress of infectious fevers. Re-

peated attempts have been made for this purpose, from the earliest period; but it was reserved for the genius of Dr. Smyth, to discover the most efficacious remedy against the fatal mixture of putrid miasmata with atmospheric air, and thus to save the lives of many who would have fallen a sacrifice to the penetrating poison of contagious fever. This discovery was deemed so great a national utility, that parliament unanimously voted the Doctor a compensation of five thousand pounds.

The following are the directions given by the learned Doctor, for preparing the nitrous vapour:

"Take fine sand, and heat it in an iron pot, ladle, or shovel; when made sufficiently hot, fill with it an earthen quart pipkin, in which immerse a common tea-cup, containing about half an ounce of vitriolic acid, to which, when it has acquired a proper degree of heat, gradually add the same quantity (half an ounce) of purified nitre in powder; stir the mixture with a slip of glass, until the vapour arise in considerable quantity.

"The pipkin is then carried about the room, (the doors, windows, &c. being close shut) occasionally putting it under the bed, and in every corner and place where any foul air may be supposed to lodge: the fumigation to

be continued till the room is filled with the vapour, which will appear like a thick haze.

"The doors, &c. may be opened in an hour after the operation. In very infectious cases it should be repeated twice a day, but otherwise once will be sufficient, which should be regularly continued till the contagion is destroyed. If the vapour should irritate the lungs, so as to excite much cough, fresh air should be admitted, by opening the doors or windows of the room. After a few repetitions, this effect will not, however, be produced, but, on the contrary, will be found agreeable and refreshing. No wood or metal should be employed in the process, otherwise dangerous and offensive vapours will be disengaged with the nitrous. Proper attention should likewise be paid to cleanliness in the apartments, cloaths, and bedding." Uninhabited rooms may be best fumigated, as directed by Citizen Guyton Morveau, with the muriatic acid, in the following manner:—"Put into the middle of the place which is to be purified, a chaffing dish, on which a pan, half filled with sand or ashes, is to be laid; and place on this bath a glass or earthen bowl, containing common salt. Having heated the bath, pour on the salt, at once, vitriolic acid, which having done, retire immediately, and let the windows and doors be exactly shut."

The proportion for a high and spacious ward of twenty beds, is of common salt, nine ounces, six drachms, and of vitriolic acid, seven ounces, seven drachms, which quantity is to be augmented or diminished, according to the space that is to be purified. Inhabited rooms this author recommends to be fumigated with oxygenated muriatic acid, which is made by adding black oxyd of manganese, in the following proportions:

	OZ.	DR.	GR.
Common salt, ...	3	2	10
Black Oxyd of Manganese .	0	10	17
Water, ...	1	2	33
Vitriolic acid, ...	1	7	50

The salt and manganese being mixed, by rubbing together in a glass or Wedgewood's mortar, are put into a glass bowl, and the water being added, pour to it vitriolic acid; this portion is sufficient for a room with ten beds.

No. 110, SMELLING SALTS.

The late Mr. Godfrey gained much reputation in this article, by simply resubliming the volatile ammonia, and afterwards perfuming it with lavender. From their great pungency they should

be used very cautiously, particularly for head-achs attended with fever or plenitude of the vessels of the head; besides, such powerful stimulants are so very injurious to the olfactory nerves, as often to impair the sense of smell; and their high perfumed state by much smelling is apt to aggravate and even produce nervous head-achs.

Volatile salts, impregnated with the flavour of the rosemary, are less pernicious; they are also a good cephalic for periodical head-achs, fainting, and hysteric fits.

No. 111, ACETIC ACID; or RADICAL VINEGAR.

This acid, when pure, has a great and rapid action on contageous effluvia; its penetrating smell and exhalation, changing not only the state of the surrounding atmosphere, but rousing the vital powers to a degree of energy capable of resisting the impulsions of infection, and may be more advantageously employed for the purpose of fumigating infected chambers, and thus destroying contagion than the thieve's vinegar; and in small rooms or wards will well answer the purpose of the nitrous and muriatic fumigations. (See Vitriolic Acid, No. 9.*)

* It may be used by swelling a sponge moistened therewith in a wide mouth bottle or case, and diffuse in the air of a room by evaporation in a saucer over the blaze of a candle.

For the purpose of smelling, in cases of head-achs, fainting, and hysteric fits, this acid is preferable to the strong smelling salts, which have no effect in destroying putrid effluvia, but by much use considerably injure the sense of smell, and may, in head-achs arising from a determination of blood to the head, be productive of serious consequences; while the acetic acid from its astringency máy be of service.

This acid, impregnated with the essential oils of cloves and lemon, has been sold under the title of "Aromatic Spirit of Vinegar," an addition which by no means improves its anticontagious powers; and the oils, becoming rancid by a little heat, render it unfit for keeping in warm climates.

No. 112, CATHARTIC EXTRACT

Is very similar to the composition sold under the name of Pill Coccia. It is a very useful and active purgative medicine, and in cases of obstinate costiveness, and when a speedy evacuation of the intestines is required, will answer better than any other of the kind. It likewise affords an excellent purgative medicine for head-ach, arising from a distension of the blood vessels of the brain and especially if produced by a suppression of the piles, which it will often succeed in restoring; but in cases of piles be-

ing present, the milder purgatives, as the aperient salts, No. 2, or aperient mixture, No. 51, will answer best.

No. 113, LICHEN ISLANDICUS; or, ICELAND LIVERWORT or MOSS.

The first account of the beneficial effects of this species of lichen in phthisis pulmonalis was noticed by the Danish writers about the middle of the sixteenth century, and it appears were known to the Icelanders as far back as the fourteenth. The celebrated Linnæus confirmed its reputation, with additional observations, in 1737. But notwithstanding these respectable testimonies, it was not much employed till Scopoli published the result of his experience, in the year 1769, since which time it has been very successfully used on the Continent, as appears by the writings of the most eminent medical practitioners in Germany and Denmark. Through the commendations of Dr. Aikin, (in his edition of Lewis,) Dr. Crichton, and the able author of the Thesaurus Medicaminum, many practitioners were induced to prescribe it in this country about eight years since; but not in sufficient quantities to have given it a fair trial. Its use has lately been revived by some observations published on its antiphthisical virtues, by the editors of the Medical and Physical Journal;

and a Mons. Regnault, in a pamphlet entitled, an "Essay on the Lichen Islandicus." But the preparations recommended by this author, certainly do not contain the combined qualities of the herb, to which salutary effects, in pulmonary consumption, are attributable.

The lichen islandicus possesses considerable medicinal and dietetic properties; the latter residing in a strong mucilage, which affords a regimen well adapted to support the debilitated frame of phthisical patients; and the former in a bitter, which, in proper doses, is evidently of an anodyne nature. It powerfully allays cough; and unlike opium, at the same time facilitates expectoration, abates hectic fever, quiets the system, without constipating the bowels. It is likewise tonic, which strengthens the organs of digestion; and different from any other of that class, without increasing the action of the heart and arteries—the union of these properties unquestionably affords a most valuable remedy in the treatment of pulmonary consumption.

The bitter portion of this herb, (which must be considered the principal agent in the relief of the phthisical symptoms,) is readily imparted to boiling water by infusion; but by the long boiling necessary to extract its mucilage, this quality is nearly destroyed. Quarin, sensible of this circumstance, directs the herb to be boiled in

water only half an hour, which extracts but a small portion of the mucilage, and contains its medicinal virtues, unimpaired; and Hartmann recommends two drachms of the herb to be boiled in a pint of milk for a short time, which is ordered to be drank off in a morning; and this form has been most followed by the physicians in London; but with patients affected with symptoms, of indigstion, this medium often proves too heavy. Mons. Regnault recommends a concentrated syrup, which in a short time ferments, and becomes mouldy; and, (from the quantity of sugar contained in a dose,) often acescent in the stomach, and thus may, and I believe has often encreased the most alarming symptom of the disorder, the colliquative diarrhœa. Besides, this syrup being deprived of the bitter quality of the herb, (independent of these objections) may be considered as possessing little or no virtue, superior to the jelly of arrow-root, tapioca, or any other farinaceous substance.

This author likewise impregnates chocolate and lozenges with the virtues of the lichen, which he terms Iceland Chocolate and Iceland Lozenges; the former I conceive is liable to the same objection as the syrup; and I am persuaded, the virtues of the herb cannot be so far concentrated, as a dose, to be contained in two pounds of the latter. If these preparations,

which are recommended through the medium of the daily papers, are to be confided in, the lichen will not support its foreign reputation in this country. Bergius, in whose practice it proved particularly successful, directs a pottage to be made with it, which he gave to the amount of a quart a day to his consumptive patients; many of whom, he observes, were not only recovered, but even made fat by it. And in order to obtain any considerable advantage from this remedy, in the different species of pulmonary consumption that occur in this climate, experience has convinced me that it must be exhibited to the extent of two or three ounces in the course of twenty-four hours; which, from the quantity of decoction, chocolate, or lozenges, containing a proportionate dose of the dietetic and medicinal virtues of the herb, too often prove so disgusting to the patients, as to induce them to relinquish the remedy entirely.

The farina, or flour of the lichen is exempt from these objections, and may be administered, without disgusting the patient, to the extent of three, or even four ounces a-day. This preparation is free from the cortical and fibrous parts of the herb. It possesses, in perfection, both the medicinal and dietetic properties; and to form the jelly, does not require that long coction which proves destructive to its bitter qua-

lity. It may be exhibited in the quantity of three drachms for a dose, boiled with half an ounce of chocolate or cocoa in a morning for breakfast. The true Spanish cocoa I have found to answer best; it approaches nearly to the flavour of the chocolate of this country, and being free from sugar, is less liable to disagree with the patient, than the manufactured chocolate, which, from the milk, butter, and sugar used in its composition, is generally found more or less acid or rancid.

This powder may likewise conveniently be made into a kind of pottage, (a form much recommended by Bergius) either in milk, water, or broth, as may appear most suitable to the case of the patient, in the following manner: To a dessert spoonful of the farina, add as much cold water as will make it into a soft paste; then pour on, by degrees, half a pint of boiling water, broth, or warm milk, stirring it briskly the whole time: after boiling for about ten minutes, it will become a smooth thin jelly—A little sugar, currant jelly, liquorice, or an innocent aromatic may be added, to render it palatable.

If the strength of the patient be much reduced, the lichen may be very advantageously combined with an animal jelly, by first boiling an ounce of the true stag's horn shavings in a pint and a half of water to one pint, and adding a dessert spoonful of the farina lichen, previ-

ously well mixed with a little water or milk; stir them together, and boil for ten minutes; it may be flavoured with any spice approved of by the medical attendant. Care should be taken that the true stag's or hart's horn shavings be employed, as those generally sold are made from calves bones, which do not impart any jellytinous property to water, being deprived of it by the process of bleaching.

If the phthisical symptoms, such as troublesome cough, difficulty of expectoration, loss of appetite, diarrhœa, and profuse perspiration, should indicate the use of the bitter quality of the lichen in greater proportion than contained in the farina, a concentrated infusion may likewise be employed; for this purpose three ounces of the contused herb may be infused in a pint and half of boiling water, for three hours; evaporate the strained liquor over a gentle heat, to the consumption of one half, and add one drachm of extract of liquorice; three tablespoonfuls of which may be taken every three or four hours.

The farina of the lichen may likewise be employed with greater advantage than any other farinaceous substance, in dysentery, habitual diarrhœa, especially where the natural mucus of the intestines is abraded; and in all cases of emaciation and debility of the system, weakness

of the stomach and bowels, and as a food for weakly children. In syphilis, where the strength of the patient has been much reduced by the operation of mercury, the farina lichen has proved particularly beneficial in restraining diarrhœa, and strengthening the system; and in such cases will prove more efficacious than sarsaparilla root, or any tonic medicine in obviating the debilitating effects of mercury on the constitution.

The decoction of this herb, (which is frequently ordered by physicians, and sometimes preferred by the patient) may be made by boiling, over a gentle heat, one ounce of the herb (previously washed in cold water, and freed from the little sticks, and foreign green moss that is generally imported with it) in a quart of water for fifteen minutes—two drachms of liquorice root, washed and sliced, may be added about five minutes before it is taken off the fire. A tea-cupful of this decoction should be taken four times a day. Two drachms of the herb may be boiled in a pint of milk for ten minutes, and taken for breakfast and supper; or, if chocolate be preferred, it may be blended with it, by making the chocolate with a decoction of the lichen (without the liquorice) as above directed. For the conveniency of patients afflicted with diseases of the lungs, I have di-

rected it to be * kept ground with the Spanish cocoa, which I have found, from the unctuous matter with which it abounds, considerably to promote its efficacy, and so effectually to cover its bitter quality, that patients have taken it in full doses without the least disgust. This cocoa is readily made for use in the following manner: To a large table-spoonful of the Lichen cocoa add as much cold water as will make it into a paste, then pour on half a pint of boiling water or milk, stirring it briskly, and boil it gently for ten minutes in a coffee pot with a close cover; after it has stood to settle, it may be poured off for use, and a little sugar and cream added as agreeable to the palate. Two or three tea-cupfuls may be taken for breakfast, instead of tea in the evening, and for supper.

Under the head of Consumption of the Lungs I shall notice such auxiliary medicines which experience has satisfied my mind may be used with great advantage in the different species of pulmonary consumption that occur in Great Britain, and shall enumerate some well-marked cases of confirmed pulmonary consumption that were restored by perseverance in its use.

* At the Chemical and Medical Hall, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.

No. 114, CARBONIC POWDER

Is a fine preparation of charcoal, and affords the most efficacious and innocent tooth powder that can be used. It possesses the desirable properties of rendering the teeth white, and incapable of either chemically or mechanically injuring the enamel of the teeth; it likewise destroys the fætor arising from carious teeth, which contaminates the breath. It is best used by means of a brush, with cold water, every morning. The basis of most of the nostrums, so industriously advertised for cleaning the teeth, is a strong acid which renders the teeth white for a short time, but, by much use, chemically destroys their enamel. A lady, of respectability at the West end of London, by the use of an advertised tooth powder of this sort, although only thirty years of age, has not one sound tooth left, and the pain she sometimes experiences from tooth-ach is inconceivable. (See Tooth Ach.)

No. 115, JAMAICA GINGER

Has lately been introduced into domestic medicine as a remedy for gout and indigestion; and where the use of a stimulant is required, it certainly affords the most innocent and efficacious medicine that can be employed,

being exempt from the inflammatory effects of spirits and those spices whose stimulating properties reside in a pungent essential oil.

A tincture of ginger has been sold under the name of *Essence of Ginger*, and lately puffed off, in the public prints, as superior to the ginger in substance. The rectified spirit of wine with which it is made, must counteract its peculiar salutary aromatic, and the preparation cannot contain its mucilage, to which, in cases of gout and indigestion, much of its efficacy is attributable.

The Means of counteracting the Effects of the different Poisons on the Human Body.

POISONS may be considered under three different heads, viz. *Mineral*, *Vegetable* and *Animal.*

Of the Mineral Sort,

Arsenic is the most potent, and, for the purpose of suicide, generally resorted to. The solutions of mercury, copper, lead, and antimony in different acids, are likewise in no great quantity active and virulent poisons. When a mineral poison has been taken, no medicine will have so speedy and beneficial effect as the liver of sulphur. A table-spoonful may be dissolved in half a pint of water, and two table-spoonfuls of the solution given for a dose; but in case this preparation cannot be readily procured, a tea-

spoonful of sulphur, with six grains of salt of wormwood will afford the best substitute. The remedy should be administered as speedily as possible, and repeated in a quarter of an hour, and afterwards as occasion may require.

The liver of sulphur, or salt of wormwood, by uniting with the acid, decomposes the salt, and precipitates the metal, in the form of a calx, nearly or wholly inactive. It will likewise be proper to dilute plentifully with warm water, and to excite vomiting by giving, either with the first dose of either of the above medicines, or soon after, two scruples of ipecacuanha powder, No. 23, and to assist its operation by irritating the fauces with the finger, which may be introduced a little down the gullet. Oil and milk may likewise be given with a view to blunt their acrimony. If either liver of sulphur, or salt of wormwood cannot be readily procured, the same quantity of pearl or pot-ash may be employed, or half a table-spoonful of soap lees given in a little water.

In all cases of *mineral poisons this method should be adopted. If the poison sould be arsenic, Newman observes, that the alkaline medicines, as the liver of sulphur, salt of wormwood,

* When the Nature of the poison cannot be ascertained, it should be treated as of the mineral class, which with the emetic of ipecacuanha will often succeed in expelling vegetable poisons.

or pearl-ash, will very plentifully dissolve it, and hence it will be the better discharged by emetics.

The most powerful medicine for counteracting the effects of arsenic, and corrosive sublimate is the liver of sulphur, given in a dose of twenty grains, dissolved in a glass of water, and repeated in a quarter of an hour, or in the manner above-mentioned. The alkali of this medicine decomposes the saline preparation of metals; and the sulphuric part restrains their power, and even so remarkably abates the virulence of arsenic, as, when intimately combined, to render it nearly innocent.

It is strange that such powerful medicines, in counteracting the effects of mineral poisons, should not be noticed by Tissot, Buchan, and others who have written on the subject, professedly for public instruction. Dr. Buchan observes, if the oily drinks he recommends to be taken fail to produce vomiting, "half a drachm of powder of ipecacuanha must be given, or a few spoonfuls of the *oxymel*, or *vinegar of squills* may be mixed with the water he drinks." The two latter articles, no medical man, at least of any chemical knowledge, would think of giving, unless with a view of increasing the virulence of the poison, and thus rendering it fatal on an animal he wished to destroy. "With respect to mineral poisons," says Dr. Houlston,

"there is a rational ground for hope, as by proper management they may be decomposed, their effects counteracted, and the danger resulting from their exhibition guarded against and prevented;" but the

Vegetable Poisons

do not admit of such a remedy, there being no certain means of counteracting their effects. Their speedy evacuation should be attempted by the most powerful emetics; as, fifteen or twenty grains of white vitriol, or four grains of emetic tartar, No. 28, with thirty of ipecacuanha, No. 23, in a little water—a solution of the crystalized acid of tartar, or lemon, or vinegar, may be given as a corrector of their narcotic quality, and coffee as a diluter.

These means should be employed as early as possible, before the poison has destroyed the sensibility of the stomach, and produced such a degree of spasm as to render vomiting impracticable, the certain consequence of their continued action on the stomach; their evacuation cannot then be effected, and their continuance is inevitably fatal.

If the poison be an over-dose of opium, the patient should be prevented going to sleep by shaking him, and applying some pungent smelling salts to the nostrils, while the above

means are employed for its evacuation. The propriety of bleeding, recommended by Dr. Buchan in such cases, is much to be doubted: I cannot see any advantage that can be derived from such a practice, but as tending to diminish the powers of life—it would certainly accelerate its fatal effects.

Animal Poison.

The effects of poison introduced by the sting of insects may be prevented, by applying, immediately, a little vinegar and spirit of wine, by means of some folds of rags.

From the bite of a mad animal arise the most formidable wound and morbid action in the system known in this country, called *hydrophobia**; for the prevention and cure of which a great variety of nostrums have been held forth to the public; but there is no satisfactory instance of any of them proving useful; and no means yet suggested can be depended on, but the complete removal of the injured part by the knife or actual cautery. In this all medical writers on the subject agree, with this difference, that some

* Doctor Berguillon has lately published a treatise at Paris, in which he maintains, with great ingenuity, that this disease is produced solely by the power of imagination, without the intervention of any distinct material poison.

contend it can only be *effectual* when it is done soon after the accident; while others, as Dr. Cullen, &c. are of opinion that the poisonous matter is not immediately absorbed into the system, and think the measures for destroying the part may be practised many days after the bite.

Mr. Hugh Munro, and Mr. Benjamin Bell, recommend the removal of the part as soon as possible after the accident; but observe, if it has been neglected, it should be attempted at any time before symptoms of hydrophobia take place, as there are instances of no alarming symptom occurring for several weeks after the bite has been given.

Sea bathing has been much recommended in all ages as a preventive; and lately mercury by many practitioners; but there are so few well attested cases in which they have been attended with advantage, that little or no dependence can be placed on them. The complete cutting out of the part to which the teeth have been applied is unquestionably the most to be relied on: and as hydrophobia, when once it has taken place, is absolutely an incurable malady, and the period for absorption uncertain, the sooner the excision of the part is accomplished the greater will be the chance of success. Till the operation can be done, the parts should be constantly washed; and even after its

removal, a discharge should be kept up from the surface of the wound by stimulating applications, as the savin ointment, No. 48.

The preventive medicine, so much extolled by Dr. Mead, is composed of ash-coloured liver-wort, powdered, half an ounce, black pepper, powdered, quarter of an ounce; to be mixed well together, and divided into four doses, one to be taken every morning fasting for four mornings successively, in half an English pint of cows' milk, warm.

"After these four doses are taken (the Doctor observes), the patient must go into the cold bath, or a cold spring or river, every morning fasting, for a month; he must be dipped all over, but not stay in (with his head above water) longer than half a minute, if the water be very cold; after this he must go in for three times a week, or a fortnight longer. The person must be bled before he uses the medicine."

In the space of thirty years, it appears the Doctor had an opportunity of giving this plan a trial no less than *one thousand* times, with (as he observes) uniform success. Its antidotal powers are, however, much to be suspected, and should not be employed to the exclusion of more rational remedies, the most plausible of which is mercury, which must be used both internally and externally, so as to excite salivation as soon as possible. A drachm of the

ointment at least, should be rubbed in the inside of the thighs, and the part surrounding the wound, two or three times a day, and a pill, composed of three grains of calomel, with a grain of opium taken twice a day. If symptoms of hydrophobia should occur, musk should be immediately administered in large doses; but as this is not a case proper for domestic practice, it is unnecessary to expatiate further on its treatment here.

ON

SUSPENDED ANIMATION,

AND THE

Means of recovering Drowned Persons.

THE suspension of the vital powers, produced by immersion in water, called *drowning*, and that by strangulation, and suffocation by noxious vapours and lightning, are very similar, and require the same resuscitative means. As in poisons, so in cases of suspended animation, what is necessary to be done should be done quickly; therefore, on the first alarm of any person being drowned or suffocated, while the

body is searching for, or conveying to the nearest house, the following articles should be got ready, viz. warm blankets, flannels, warm water, heated bricks, a pair of small bellows, warming pan, sal volatile, clyster pipes, and an electrifying machine. In conveying the body to the house the head and chest should be placed rather in a reclining position, that in case any water should have got into the lungs it may run out at the mouth, which the agitation in its carriage will accelerate.

The body being placed on warm blankets, in a spacious room with a good fire, and *only* five or six attendants, the first attempt should be to restore the lost heat by friction, with warm flannels, assisted by the application of warm bricks, or bladders, filled with warm water, to the pit of the stomach, and soles of the feet. Spirits and common salt, recommended by the Humane Society, and other medical authors, for external applications, are hurtful, as by the evaporation of the former and solution of the latter in the moisture of the skin, a considerable degree of cold is produced, which will counteract the effects of the friction.

The attempt to restore the important functions of the lungs*, should be made by forcing

* Dr. Cullen, in a letter to Lord Cathcart on the subject of suspended animation, says, that very often the water does not enter the lungs in any material quantity, and that death en-

a quantity of air from a bellows through one nostril; the other and the mouth being kept closely shut, an assistant should gently press down the ribs, as soon as their elevation indicates a distension of the lungs, and this alternate inflation and compression should be continued some time, so as to imitate natural respiration; the friction of the body, &c. being still continued by the other assistants.

The action of the heart should be excited by passing through its region gentle electric shocks, from the left to the right side, and from the front to the back alternately.

The bowels should be fomented and stimulated, by throwing up a quantity of warm water, with a handful of common salt dissolved in it, which may be done with a clyster pipe and bladder. The injection of tobacco fumes up the fundament, recommended by the Humane Society, from it narcotic quality, is more likely to prove hurtful than otherwise. It is strange that a herb, noted for its extraordinary effects in diminishing the vital functions should

sues in consequence of the stoppage of respiration, and the consequent ceasing of the action of the heart, whereby the body loses its heat and vital principle. Mr. Hunter, in the Philosophical Transactions, vol. XLVI. advances the same theory, and asserts that the restoration of breathing is all that is necessary to restore the heart's motion.

be proposed as a *stimulant* in cases of their suspension.

A slight agitation of the body every six or ten minutes, will act as a great auxiliary to those means.

Bleeding having a tendency to weaken the force of the circulation more than stimulate it, should be employed only when deemed necessary by a medical practitioner.

The brain and nervous system may be stimulated by applying electric sparks to the head, and the surface to the body. On the appearance of any symptom of returning life, a tea-spoonful of sal volatile, No. 11, or a cordial of warm brandy, should be got into the stomach in small quantities, and frequently repeated.

If, after a vigorous employment of these means, for the course of two hours, there should be no symptom of returning life, and any brewhouse, or warm bath can be obtained, the body should be carefully conveyed to such a place, and remain in the bath, or surrounded with warm grains for three or four hours; but if not, the plan proposed should be persisted in for an hour or two longer, there being instances of lives having been restored after three hours unremitting perseverance.

By these means I was, some time since, successful in restoring a poor woman, who had unfortunately slipped into the Thames off a plank,

and from every information I could obtain, she must have been under water nearly half an hour. Being fortunately on the spot, the methods above described were put into immediate execution. The case (Mrs. Bloxham of Bankside) was published by Doctor Hawes, in the reports of the Humane Society, and the Anniversary Meeting adjudged me the Honorary Medallion.

If the subject be very young, it may be placed between two healthy persons in a bed; the *natural vital warmth* has in this manner proved, in many cases, successful.

The apparatus for inflating the lungs, and the drag, recommended by the Humane Society, should be kept in every parish, many lives being lost for want of the latter.

PART II.

MODERN

DOMESTIC MEDICINE.

ON NURSING AND THE TREATMENT OF CHILDREN.

IT appears by the bills of mortality, that half the number of those who fill up that annual register of the dead die under seven years of age; so that one half of the people born in Great Britain die before they become of the least use to the community and themselves.

This extraordinary mortality is imputed, by medical writers, to wrong management, during the first and second year of their infancy, and the poisonous practice of giving anodyne aromatic medicines, especially those of the quack tribe*, as Godfrey's Cordial and Dalby's Carminative, which in the hands of ignorance, have proved more destructive to the human race of this country, than the combined ravages of the small pox and measles.

Dr. William Cadogan, late physician to the

* It is remarkable that this custom should be peculiar to the nurses of England.

Foundling Hospital, in a letter to a Governor, asserts, that this great calamity is owing "to their being over cloathed and over fed, and both fed and cloathed improperly," "That the present method of nursing is wrong, (continues the Doctor) needs no other proof than the frequent miscarriages attending it, the death of many, and the ill health of those that survive."

Cloathing of Children.

The first great mistake arises from the prejudice of nurses, in loading and binding children with flannels, swathes, stays, &c. equal to their own weight, by which means a healthy child is made so tender and chilly, that it cannot bear the external air; and if by accident it should be exposed to a refreshing breeze, the consequence is a serious inflammatory affection of the lungs or bowels; or if the child should survive the first month, it is then sent into the country, to be reared in a house that admits wind and air from every quarter. A new-born infant, being naturally warmer than an adult, requires in proportion less cloathing, which should be put on so loose, that the bowels may have room, and the limbs liberty to act and exert themselves, that the circulation of the blood, through the superficial vessels, may not be impeded, or malformation or unnatural swellings be produced by partial compression. To the latter is doubtless

attributable the many distortions and deformities, particularly among females, who suffer more in this respect than males. The great pleasure a child manifests, on being divested of this superfluity of dress, by all its powers of expression, would be sufficient to convince nurses, were they capable of making just observations, that the free use of its limbs, &c. are more agreeable to its feelings, and necessary for their growth and strength.

A flannel waistcoat, without sleeves, made to fit the body and tie loosely behind, to which a petticoat may be sewed, and over this a kind of gown, both of the same thin light and flimsey materials. The petticoat should not be quite so long as the child; the gown a few inches longer; with one cap only on the head, and the linen as usual, I think abundantly sufficient for the day, laying aside all swathes, bandages, stays, and contrivances, that are most ridiculously used to close and keep the bones of the head in their place, which confining and compressing the brain has been productive of very serious mischief to that organ, and not unfrequently that fatal disease, vulgarly called Watery Head.—Shoes and stockings are unnecessary encumbrances; the latter keep the legs wet and nasty, if they are not changed every hour, and the former too often cramp and hurt the feet, so as to prevent their learning to walk. Children in

this simple dress would be perfectly easy, and enjoy the free use of their limbs * and faculties. They should be put into it as soon as they are born, and continued in it till they are three years old, when it may be changed for any other more genteel and fashionable. They should be changed at least every day, to keep them free from sourness, which is both offensive and prejudicial to the tender state of infancy. Their night-dress should be only a loose flannel shirt, and less in quantity to those which are worn during the day, otherwise the child will be very liable to be affected with cold, and complaints of the bowels. Tape should be entirely used instead of pins in putting on their napkins.

The Feeding of Children

Is of greater importance than their cloathing. Great care should be taken that their food be wholesome and good, and in such quantity only as the body requires for its support and growth. In the business of nursing, as in physic, we should endeavour to follow nature. When a child is born, it is full of blood and excrement; its appetite and senses awake, and requires some intermediate time of abstinence and rest, to compose and recover the pressure and struggles of the birth; and the little fever produced from the

* The unnatural custom of confining the limbs of the child during night cannot be too much reprobated or guarded against by parents,

important revolutions it undergoes by the processs of delivery. If the child has sustained no injury, it will soon fall into a sweet sleep of six or seven hours, when it will awake, refreshed and hungry; it should then be put to suck *; if there should be no milk, from the sucking of the infant, it will, in an hour or two, infallibly flow; and if nothing else be given it, the child would grow strong, and the mother recover perfectly, in a few days. The general practice † of forcing down a child's throat, as soon as it is born, a lump of butter and sugar, or a little oil, with a view to cleanse the bowels, is exceedingly pernicious. The mother's first milk is purgative, and

* If the nipples are short they may be first drawn out by the nurse, and in case of being tender it will be proper to wash them with a little brandy, instead of the poisonous preparation of lead, recommended by advertisers and nurses. If the mother has small, tender, or ulcerated nipples, the artificial nipples, made from the teats of heifers, will enable her to give suck with great comfort. These nipples (the invention of Mr. Mason, No. 40, Princess Street, Leicester Square,) are very delicately prepared, and by care will last many years. I have, in a number of instances, found them to answer when the mother, through ulceration or total deficiency of nipple, could not otherwise have suckled her infant. The ease and advantages they afford are so very considerable and important, that it is much to be lamented they are not better known to the faculty.

† A lady of respectability in the city was very near losing her infant through the nurse giving it, soon after it was born, a table spoonful of water, in which the end of a red hot poker had been put for a few minutes; this was done as she stated to prevent the thrush.

cleanses a child of its long hoarded excrements, without griping or disordering the stomach and bowels; and no child can be deprived of it, without very manifest injury. By degrees the milk becomes less purgative and more nourishing, and is unquestionably the best and only food the child likes or ought to have, for at least three months. The call of nature should be waited for, to feed it with any thing more substantial; and the appetite ever precede the food, not only with regard to the daily meals, but those changes of diet which increasing life requires.

Nine in ten of the diseases of children may justly be imputed to the mistakes of nurses, both in the quality and quantity of food. With respect to quantity, it is a most ridiculous error to suppose, that whenever a child cries, it wants victuals, and thus to feed it twelve or more times in a day and night. If the child's wants and motions be *diligently* and *judiciously* attended to, it will be found that it seldom if ever cries but from pain. The sensation of hunger being unattended with pain, a very young child will make other signs of its wants, before it will cry for food. If it be healthy and quite easy in its dress, it will very rarely cry at all. Children that are fed only three or four times in twenty-four hours, are more healthy, active, and cheerful than those who are never suffered

to be hungry at all. The great fault in the quality of the food, is its not being simple enough. The addition of sugar, spices, and wine to their pap, and gruels and panadas are unnecessary; they were first only introduced by luxury, to the great destruction of the health of mankind. A child should not be kept entirely on vegetable food, from its tendency to fermentation in the heat of the stomach; and to its consequent acidity, the first and general cause of all their diseases is to be attributed. As we are partly carniverous animals, our offspring should not be deprived of that food which corrects the acescent* quality of vegetables. The mother's milk, when good, is certainly a mixture of vegetable and animal properties; in the due proportion of which consists that salubrity of aliment our nature seems to require. I would advise, therefore, that one half of infants' diet, be thin and light broths, with a little bread, rice, or arrow root boiled in them, which last is not so acescent as any other farinaceous substance. The admixture of animal jelly, with that of the arrow root, recommended under the head of arrow

* When this acid corruption of food predominates, which is obvious from the crude, white, or green stools, gripes, and purgings occasioned by it, a little magnesia, in mint water, will prove the best remedy; or if attended with much pain in the bowels, known by the child's kicking and drawing up its legs, the absorbent mixture, No. 62, will prove more serviceable than magnesia alone.

root, No. 104, is likewise an excellent combination for weakly children. The other part of children's diet may be a little toasted bread, or tops and bottoms, boiled with a little water, almost dry, and then mixed with fresh milk, *not boiled*, the properties of the milk and its taste being much changed by boiling. This, without sugar, spices, or any other pretended amendment whatever, will be perfectly light and wholesome. A sucking child may be fed twice a day at first, and not oftener: once with the broth and once with the milk thus prepared, in quantity just to satisfy its hunger. They should always be fed in a sitting posture, that swallowing may be easier to them. If a child is not used to feeding at night, it will not want it, but get into a habit of sleeping all or most part of the night, very quietly, only waking for a few minutes, when it is wet and wants changing. It is night-feeding that makes children so over fat and bloated. At the end of twelve months, the child should be weaned, by insensible degrees, that it may neither feel nor fret for the want of the breast. Was this plan of nursing literally pursued, the children kept clean and sweet, tumbled and tossed about a good deal, played with and kept in good humour, and carried out every day, when the weather would admit of it, I am confident that in eight or nine months time, most children would become healthy and strong, and

and able to sit on the ground without support, to divert themselves an hour at a time, to the great relief of their nurses, would very readily find the use of their legs, and very soon shift for themselves. By this method of nursing likewise, hereditary diseases may be avoided, and, in a generation or two, every taint and infirmity, the king's evil and insanity not excepted, may be worn out. It is a duty incumbent on every father, to have his child nursed under his own eye, and to make use of his own reason and sense, in superintending and directing the management of it; and that of the mother to suckle it herself; if she be healthy it will confirm her health, if weakly it will, in most cases, restore her*. It need be no confinement to her, or abridgment of her time; three or four times in twenty-four hours, will be often enough to give it suck. It may be fed and dressed by some reasonable servant, that will submit to be directed, with whom it might likewise sleep. No

* It must however be admitted that the luxuries which modern refinement has introduced in the manner of living, although they may not prevent every woman from being a mother certainly render many very unfit for the office of a nurse; but when the mother is of a strong constitution, she is unquestionably the most proper nurse, and ought to be advised to undertake the task on account of her own health as well as that of her infant. It is remarkable that mothers who have neglected to suckle their offspring are most subject to cancer of the breast or womb.

other woman's milk can be so good for her child; and dry nursing is the most unnatural and dangerous method of all; and, according to the calculations of physicians, who have been in the practice of midwifery and attending children upwards of forty years, not one in three survives it.

Exercise of Children.

Without a proper degree of exercise, all our care in feeding and cloathing infants will not succeed to our wishes, till, by due degrees, a child is brought to bear a good deal of exercise without fatigue. It should be pushed forward and taught to walk as soon as possible, so that, at the end of twelve months, it should (if healthy) be capable of walking alone. It is a vulgar error to suppose that children are not to be put on their legs, because they are weak or the least bent or crooked; daily experience shews that crooked legs will grow, in time, strong and straight, by frequent walking, and that disuse makes them worse. The walks should be gradually increased every day, till they can walk two miles without weariness, which they will very well be able to do in three years, if they are accustomed to it properly. From this daily exertion, they will, from the impulse of their own active vigour, soon be found running, leap-

ing, and playing, all day long. Thus a dull heavy child may be made playful and sprightly, and a weakly one healthy and strong, and confirmed in good habits and permanent health.

There are some other little niceties, that were they observed in the nursing of children, would be of some service to them, such as making them lie straight in bed; I do not mean extended like a corpse, but that their limbs may be free and easy. They should be taught to use both hands alike; for employing one more than another, will make the hand and side of the body bigger than the other, and is often the cause of crookedness; neither should they be always laid on the same side, nor carried constantly on the same arm. It would likewise not be amiss to forward their speaking *plain*, by speaking plain *distinct* words to them, instead of the jargon generally made use of by nurses.

Dr. Hamilton condems the use of cradles for children, on account of their being improperly used by nurses. This author recommends a crib, to be so constructed as to be fixed to the side of the bed during the night, and to be easily carried from one room to another during the day: it must not be made to rock; but, in cold weather, the infant ought never to be allowed to sleep by itself, as heat is absolutely necessary.

Instructions for the Choice of a Wet Nurse, &c.

It is not sufficient that a wet nurse should be only clean, healthy, sober, and temperate, but likewise *middle aged*, because she will have more milk than the very young, and more and better than the old: this is a very material consideration when she has her own child to suckle besides. Those between twenty and thirty are certainly the best age. Great regard should be had to the time of their lying-in, and those procured who have not been brought to bed more than three months: for Nature intending that a child should suck only twelve months, the milk seldom continues good much longer; for about that time, women, though they give suck, are apt to breed again, and some that are very sanguine much sooner; which, and other periodical causes, disturb and affect the milk greatly, and therefore they are not proper for nurses so long after their delivery.

The nurse's food should consist of a proper mixture of flesh and vegetables: she should eat one hearty meal of unsalted meat every day, with a great deal of vegetables and little bread, and thin broth or milk for her breakfast and supper, and her *strongest* drink good ale or porter.

If the child has not sucked its own mother, it should have a little purgative physic in a day or

two after its birth, to carry off the long-hoarded excrements; for this purpose a little manna may be given it, dissolved in water; or the nurse may take a little lenitive electuary, which, through the medium of the milk, will act on the bowels of the child; by these means, three or four stools should be procured in twenty-four hours.

The child should be kept awake by day, as long as it is disposed to be so, and great care should be taken that no anodyne quack medicine be given, or means taken to lull or rock it to sleep, or to continue it asleep long, which is too much the custom of wet nurses, to save their own time and trouble, to the great detriment of the child's health, spirits, and understanding*. If the nurse has another child to support with her own milk, the sooner the child is begun to be fed according to the method I have recommended the better, as it is not likely she should have milk enough to support two.

A healthy child may be allowed a little mellow fruit, either raw, stewed, or baked, and the produce of the kitchen-garden, which, in moderation, is perfectly grateful and salutary. As soon as the child has any teeth, it may be used to a little flesh-meat, which it will be more

* The frequent use of laudanum, or the advertised anodyne medicines, have, no doubt, rendered many idiotic for life.

fond of than confectionary or pastry wares, with which it should never debauch its taste.

Of the Diseases of Children.

Having observed that the first and general cause of almost all diseases that assail us during childhood, is the acid corruption of the food, and it being easier to prevent diseases than cure them, it will not be amiss to mention in this place a certain preventive, if given in due time.

On the first appearance of predominating acid, which is evinced by crude, white, or green stools, gripes, and purgings occasioned by it; five grains of magnesia, No. 1. combined with two grains of rhubarb powder, No. 25. should be given in a little mint water, which will correct the sourness more effectually than prepared chalk, or Gascoign balls, so generally employed by nurses; and instead of producing a costive state of the bowels, the certain consequence of these cretaceous absorbents, the magnesia and rhubarb will gently carry off the offending matter, and at the same time strengthen the stomach and bowels. If the child is supported entirely by the breast, the mother should live more on animal food; and if it be allowed any spoon-meat, it should be the vegetable and animal combination mentioned under the head of arrow-root,

No. 103. In cases of obstinate purging, two or three tea-spoonfuls of the cretaceous mixture, No. 53. should be given every three or four hours. By the *early* employment of these remedies many complaints may be prevented, which, from neglect, grow from bad to worse, and too often end fatally.

Convulsive Fits.

The spasmodic affection, termed by nurses *inward fits**, is the first complaint that appears in children, and which most, if not all children, are more or less subject to. The symptoms are, an appearance of being asleep with the eye-lids a little open, the eyes frequently twinkling, with the whites of them turned upwards; the muscles of the face, especially of the lips, are affected with a tremulous motion, producing something like a smile, and sometimes almost the appearance of a laugh. The breathing becomes interrupted, and appears now and then to stop a little, with a considerable fluttering at the heart, and intermission of the pulse, the nose becomes pinched, a pale circle encompasses the eyes and mouth, often becoming livid, and at

* It is strange that these attacks, which more or less affect every child, should not have been noticed by Dr. Hamilton, in his late popular treatise on the Management of Children.

times disappearing entirely. The child at length becomes so irritable and nervous, that it starts at the least noise, it will then sigh and discharge wind, which affords a temporary relief, and presently relapses into a dozing. Sometimes it struggles very much before the wind is expelled; then vomiting, or a loud fit of crying sets all right again. As the child advances, these fits generally go off by degrees spontaneously; or by mismanagement in their diet grow worse, succeeded by fever or thrush; or end in vomiting, sour, curdled, and green stools, and convulsions of the whole body.

Dr. Armstrong, who has fully treated on this disease, and whom subsequent writers have copied, imputes it to a quantity of mucus squeezed out of the mouth of the glands and fauces, by the contraction of the muscles and pressure of the nipple in the act of sucking, which, with the additional mucus of the gullet and stomach, mixing with the milk, renders it of a slimy consistence, by which means it is not readily taken up by the vessels for the nourishment of the body: and as there is in most children an acidity in the stomach, the milk is thereby curdled, which adds to the load; hence sickness and spasms are produced, which, by sympathy, being communicated to the gullet and fauces, occasion the convulsive motions enumerated above. Other authors, who coin-

cide with the Doctor in this opinion, think that they are aggravated, if not produced by air swallowed with the milk in sucking, from the relief a child experiences on an expulsion of air, which, however, was more likely to be generated in the stomach than taken with the milk, which the Doctor, to support his theory, thinks takes place: nor can it be attributed to a corrupt or vitiated state of the saliva, insomuch as all children are affected with them. Besides, if the Doctor was right in imputing the disease to the quantity of mucus swallowed during *suction*, children that are not suffered to suck at all, would be entirely exempt from them, which we find, however, so far from being the case, that children brought up entirely by the hand suffer most by them.

Experience and much reflection on this perturbed state of the whole system, which takes place during the paroxysm, have disposed me to refer it to a very different cause, hitherto, I believe, unnoticed by any medical writer on the subject.

All the symptoms enumerated, denote a very considerable interruption of the circulation of the blood, to which I refer the real cause of the disease; and when we consider the great changes which take place in the circulation, at the moment a child inhales its first breath, we cannot be surprised that it should not go on for

some time with regularity; which I will endeavour to demonstrate.

As soon as the child is born, the vessels by which it received nourishment from the mother, during its fœtal state, are now no longer necessary, and they become gradually obliterated and form a kind of ligament. Each cavity of the heart, which, prior to its birth acted as one, by a communication between the two auricles, called the foramen ovale, or oval hole, are now to perform two offices, the right ventricle to transmit *venal blood* to the lungs, and the left ventricle *arterial blood*, through the great artery called the aorta, and its divisions and subdivisions all over the body for its support. The vessel (termed the *canalis arteriosus*) for conveying blood from the pulmonary artery to the aorta, to prevent too great an afflux into the lungs previous to respiration, is likewise become unnecessary, and its cavity in time is destroyed. The closing of the foramen ovale*, and canalis arterius not taking place immediately on the birth of the child, but gradually afterwards, must naturally be a cause of a little interruption to the circulation, and I am convinced

* This aperture sometimes remains open through life, which I believe to be the cause of the palpitation of the heart, intermittent pulse, and fainting or swooning fits, we find some people subject to during the whole of their lives, without materially affecting their health.

that its regularity is not established till they are closed; and as this is accomplished *gradually*, so the fits in question go off *gradually*, and at the time they generally close, so the fits disappear *spontaneously*. These fits may therefore be considered of the nature of *fainting* or *swooning* fits, occasioned by the loss of blood in adults, and which are produced by the same interruption in the action of the heart, and to which they have a very great resemblance, and are relieved by the same kind of remedies. With respect to the

Medical Treatment

of these inward fits, as they are termed; it is obvious that all that art can, or should attempt to do, is to palliate the symptoms till nature has removed the cause; to avoid every thing that is likely to aggravate them, as a distended state of the stomach from a full meal, which by pressing up the diaphragm impedes the action of the heart. (It is from this circumstance that the expulsion of air from the stomach, noticed by authors, affords children so much relief) A child should therefore be suffered to suck, or be fed a little at a time; the stomach and bowels should be kept in a proper state, by strict attention to the admixture of vegetable and animal food above-mentioned, and the correction

of any acidity, by the exhibition of small doses of magnesia alone, or combined with rhubarb. When the symptoms run high from neglect or mismanagement, a small blister applied over the breast bone, or to the left side, will afford very considerable relief, by diminishing the irritability of the heart. If proper attention be paid to the feeding of the child, I am persuaded that the complaint would never require any medical assistance, but would gradually decline till it left the child entirely; and that the termination in the disease noticed by Armstrong and others, is owing to *bad nursing*, *officious art*, and *accidental fever*.

Convulsions are sometimes symptomatic of worms, water on the brain, and difficult dentition, when they require the same treatment as recommended for primary affections.

All the disorders which arise from the retention of the black slimy matter in the bowels, called the meconium, as the red gum, may easily be removed by gentle laxatives, or obviated by sucking the first milk of the mother, which effectually cleanses the bowels of the excrementitious matter contained in them. One great source of mortality among children, is

Dentition, or, the Breeding of their Teeth.

Whatever fever, fits, or other dangerous symptoms seem to attend this *operation of nature*,

healthy children generally breed their teeth without any such bad attendants, which inclines me to suspect the evil not to be natural, but rather the effect of too great fullness, or corrupt humours of the body put into action by the irritation the tooth produces in breaking its way out. This I believe never happens without some pain, and probably a little fever, but if the blood and juices be perfectly good and healthy, and there be not too great a redundancy of them, both will be but slight, and pass off imperceptibly without any bad consequence whatever. Care should therefore be taken to keep the humours of the body in this state, by proper diet and exercise.

The usual symptoms produced by this operation of nature, are, restlessness, frequent and sudden startings, especially in sleep, costiveness, and sometimes violent looseness, fever, or convulsions. In general those children breed their teeth with the greatest ease, who have a moderate laxity of the bowels, and a plentiful flow of saliva, or spittle, during the time. A costive state of the bowels, as aggravating the inflammatory symptoms, should be guarded against, by giving a little magnesia and rhubarb, or senna, (See No. 34.) and *immoderate* looseness, which is a frequent attendant, as increasing the irritability of the body, should be checked by giving two or three tea-spoonfuls of the creta-

ceous mixture, No. 53, or two drops of laudanum, No. 18, in a little mint water, to which six or eight grains of the cretaceous powder, No. 31, or prepared chalk may be added; and if the skin be dry, and the child feverish, one grain of ipecacuanha will prove useful, by producing perspiration.

The discreet use of laudanum is a very important addition in this instance; and, by allaying the irritability, not only of the gums, but the whole body, will often prevent fever and convulsions. If its frequent exhibition should produce a costive state of the bowels, a little magnesia should be given with it, and the cretaceous powder omitted.

At the same time, as children about this period are generally disposed to chew every thing that they can get into their hands, they should always have something to play with that will yield a little to the pressure of their gums. The Indian-rubber, or elastic gum, secured round the end of a rattle, I have found, for this purpose to answer best. The repeated muscular action, occasioned by the constant biting and gnawing of such a substance, will increase the discharge from the salivary glands, while the gums will be so forcibly pressed against the advancing teeth, as to make them break out much sooner, and with less uneasiness than

would otherwise happen*. If these means should prove ineffectual, and bad symptoms begin to appear, the inflamed gum should be lanced down to the tooth. Blisters applied to the nape of the neck, or behind the ear, will often take off the irritation of the gums, and thus relieve all the febrile symptoms. If the child, on the contrary, be reduced, with a feeble pulse, it should be supported with cordials and a nutritious diet.

Of Worms.

There is no complaint more frequent among children than that of worms. It is a common supposition that the ova or eggs which produce them are conveyed into the stomach with fruit; but I believe there are few things we eat or drink that do not contain them; I am, however, persuaded they are never hatched, or nourished in a healthy stomach. The best preventive, therefore, for children, is proper food and exercise.

The signs of worms in children are very numerous, such as disagreeable breath in the morning, especially itching at the nose, irregular appetite, swelled and hard belly, trouble-

* The Anodyne Necklaces, as they are artfully termed, can have no effect in cases of difficult dentition.

some sleep, grinding of the teeth during sleep, thirst and feverishness, colicky pains, and often purgings; but as these symptoms are common to other disorders, the only one to be depended on is their being discharged, and this may be obverved with respect to every species. The most effectual and safe remedy for the destruction of worms, lodged either in the stomach or intestines, is the Basilic powder, No. 29, given according to the direction there specified.

The *spurious worm fever*, as it istermed by Dr. Musgrave, or the *infantile remittent fever* of Doctor Butter, is attended with all the symptoms enumerated above, without the existence of any worms in the stomach and bowels, but arises solely from the indulgence in too great a quantity of food. The attack in this disorder is more instantaneous, and its progress more rapid, the patient often passing, in the space of a few hours, from apparent perfect health to a stupid and almost dying state. In the beginning of this disorder an emetic of ipecacuanha powder, No. 23, should be given without delay, and soon after a gentle purge of jalap powder, No. 26, with a view to evacuate the indigested matter and mucus, that happen to remain in the stomach and bowels; if they operate properly, there is seldom occasion for repeating them. If the purging should continue longer than forty-eight hours, it should be checked by a few

drops of laudanum, No. 18, and if the child be much reduced, two table-spoonfuls of the decoction of bark, No. 33, or the solution of essential salt of bark, No. 24, in port wine, should be given two or three times a day.

Swelling of the Breasts.

A slight distention of the breasts of new-born infants, from a collection of whitish serous fluid resembling milk, is a very common occurrence in both sexes, and is of little consequence, unless attended with inflammation, which is not unfrequently excited by the preposterous practice of nurses squeezing the breasts with their rough hands, for the purpose of unloading them. If the pressure of the cloaths is avoided by their being put on loosely, it will go off gradually, without any medical aid; but in case of much inflammation, the parts may be washed gently three times a day with brandy. Oily applications, with the rubbing employed by nurses, and even recommended by practitioners, are very improper, and never fail to aggravate the complaint.

If the inflammatory symptoms should, however, run high, the most active means should be adopted for its resolution, such as the application of a leech or two, a discutient lotion of

equal parts of brandy and vinegar, applied cold, and an aperient medicine, (magnesia and rhubarb) should be employed without delay, as the formation of matter might not only leave an unpleasant scar, but, in a female, might injure the gland, so as to render her at any future period unfit for the office of suckling. If the complaint should, notwithstanding, advance to maturation, the advice of a surgeon should not be neglected.

Inflamed, or Sore Eyes.

Inflammations of the eye-lids and eyes, especially such as are attended with a discharge of thick matter, should, in children, be considered of too great importance to constitute a part of domestic medicine, as they frequently terminate in an adhesion of the coats of the eyes, and thus occasion permanent blindness: the advice of an occulist or surgeon of eminence should be taken while there is a prospect of its being of advantage.

A small blister behind the ear, or to the nape of the neck, a leech to the eye-lid, a dose of basilic powder, No. 39. or calomel, No. 27. and the constant application of a lotion made with two grains of white vitriol dissolved in two ounces of water, will often succeed in curing the most obstinate attacks, and cannot produce

any mischief. The eye-lids should be opened, and the lotion dropped in the ball of the eye, as well as applied externally, by means of folds of soft old linen.

Galling.

The inflammation, and sometimes excoriations, that frequently occur in the groin, between the legs, &c. termed galling, are not only painful to the infant, but often perplexing to the nurse, especially if the child be much loaded with fat. It evidently arises from a shameful inattention to cleanliness, and sometimes the use of coarse or new napkins.

The cure may always be effected by ablution with cold water, and dusting the parts with the prepared chalk kept by apothecaries and druggists for the purpose. If it be situated in the groin, or near the genitals, it should (after being washed) be covered with a little fresh spermaceti ointment, to defend it from the action of the urine, which often produces much pain, and increases the inflammation; it may afterwards be dusted with the prepared chalk recommended above.

Milk, so frequently employed by nurses as a wash for these complaints, by turning sour on the parts, often produces fresh irritation.

A preparation of lead, termed *cerues* powder, is in very general use as a dusting powder for children; it is, however, a very dangerous application, and, it is to be feared, from an absorption of a portion into the system, has been the cause of the death of a great number of children, by producing convulsions and inflammation in the bowels, cases of which are noticed under the head of Goulard's Extract of Lead, No. 49.

Dr. Buchan, in his Domestic Medicine, imprudently recommends a little *sugar of lead* to be added to an absorbent powder when the parts are very sore, or tend to ulceration, without even specifying the quantity to be used. The Doctor should have known that lead, in a saline state, is a dangerous external application for infants.

From the inattention of medical men to these particulars in the management of infants, I am persuaded their diseases are often referred to a wrong cause, and their lives absolutely destroyed by the prejudices and ignorance of nurses.

Red Gum

Is an eruption of small pimples on the skin, evident to the touch, generally red, but sometimes yellowish, appearing chiefly on the face,

and sometimes on the body and extremities, in clusters or large patches. It is generally considered, by medical practitioners and nurses, of a salutary tendency, and it sometimes seems to relieve infants of complaints in the bowels, and difficulty of breathing; but very frequently it is attended with no such advantage, and may often be traced to some imprudent practice of the nurse, in either washing the infant with brandy as soon as it was born, from a mistaken notion of hardening the skin, or roughly washing it with soap, for the purpose of removing the thick glutinous matter with which all infants are, more or less, covered when born, and no doubt intended by Nature as a protection for the tender skin during its fœtal state, and to guard it against irritation on its first exposure to the atmospheric air; and if it be only removed in such quantity as gentle washing with warm water, will take off, it will leave the skin white and healthy, instead of the dark, red, and irritable state occasioned by the spirit *, soap, and friction employed for its removal.

Whether the eruption be critical or not, no external application should be employed to re-

* The evaporation of spirits from the surface of the body, whether infant or adult, generates such a degree of cold as to check insensible perspiration, and thus occasion inflammation in the brain, lungs, bowels, or eyes: the practice, likewise, instead of hardening the skin, renders it more tender; it cannot, therefore, be too much reprobated.

pel it, but means taken to prevent its sudden repulsion, as avoiding an exposure to cold air, and keeping the bowels gently open with small doses of magnesia and rhubarb; and should it by any accident recede, the warm bath, and a gentle emetic of ipecacuan, will generally succeed in its expulsion. If cough and difficulty of breathing, or a violent affection of the bowels, intervene, medical advice should be immediately resorted to.

The most simple wash for children is a water in which some almond powder has been rubbed between the hands, or *fine* almond powder may be used instead of soap: it will, in all cases, answer better than soap, whose alkaline salt injures the skin, while the almond powder renders it healthy.

Thrush.

This disease appears in white specks on the corner of the lips, the tongue, and back part of the palate, sometimes gradually spreading all over the inside of the mouth, and, from its appearance about the arms, it has been supposed to extend through the intestinal canal. Infants brought up by the hand are most subject to this disorder, and to those it does not unfrequently prove fatal.

Dr. Buchan describes this disease to consist in a number of small ulcers, affecting the whole inside of the mouth, &c. They are not, however, ulcerations, but, as Dr. Hunter states, a kind of inflammatory exudations, which is confirmed by their falling off, and being succeeded by others. It is evidently the effect of too great an use of vegetable food, especially when given hot, or with wine or spices. The cure, of course, will depend on a change of diet to a proper combination of vegetable and animal jellies, as directed under the head of Arrow Root, or the employment of veal broth or beef tea, thickened with arrow root or good wheat flour. A costive state of the bowels should be obviated, by occasional doses of magnesia, either with calomel or rhubarb, and the parts affected touched with the following liniment three or four times a day, by means of a large camel-hair brush—

Take of Honey of Roses one ounce, Muriatic Acid ten drops, Liquid Laudanum forty drops. Mix.

Borax well mixed with honey, in the proportion of one drachm of the former to an ounce of the latter, has been much recommended, and, on account of its consistency, will often answer better than a thin liniment.

When the bowels are much disturbed, and the disease evidently in a progressive state, the life of the child may be considered in such danger, as to render the immediate advice of a practitioner of eminence, necessary.

☞ For the treatment, &c. of the other diseases of children, as measles, hooping-cough, small-pox, watery head, &c. see the Alphabetical List of Diseases.

AN

ALPHABETICAL LIST

OF

DISEASES,

WITH THEIR

SYMPTOMS, CAUSES, &c. &c.

AGUE.

WHEN the cold fit of an intermittent fever is violent and continues long, so as to form a principal part of the disorder, it is thus termed; but, by late authors, this distinction is not observed, and all varieties are considered under the common head of *Intermittent Fever*, which see.

B. AMAUROSIS, See *Gutta Serena*.

B. ANASARCA, See *Dropsy*.

ANIMATION, SUSPENSION OF, See Page 113.

APOPLEXY

Consists in a sudden deprivation of all the senses and voluntary motion, in consequence of compression of the brain; which, when produced by an effusion of blood, or a distention of the vessels of the brain, from an accumulation of blood, is termed Sanguine Apoplexy: and when occasioned by an effusion of serum, which occurs chiefly in dropsical habits, Serous Apoplexy.

Sanguine Apoplexy

Seldom occurs before the fiftieth year of a person's age. The short-necked, the indolent, and those who are apt to indulge themselves in excessive meals of animal food, and the free use of spirituous and vinous liquors, are most subject to this disease. Its frequent occurrence, of late years, in this country, is attributed to the unusual vicissitude of the climate; to which may be added the increased consumption of animal food and spirituous liquors.

Description, &c.—With the loss of sense and voluntary motion, there is an appearance of profound and continual sleep, with snorting;

oppression of the breath; the pulse seldom much affected; while the arteries of the head, particularly the great *carotid* in the neck, beat with increased force; the face red and bloated; the neck swelled, with a distention of the vessels, and dilatation of the pupils of the eyes. Although the whole of the body is affected with a loss of sense and motion, one side, on examination, will generally be found to be more so than the other.

These appearances, which constitute what is called the *apoplectic fit*, are often preceded by giddiness; frequent head-achs; bleeding at the nose; redness of the eyes; imperfect vision; a noise in the ears, like the ringing of bells at a distance, or the boiling of a tea-kettle; a transitory degree of numbness, or loss of motion in the extremities; faultering of the voice; impaired memory; drowsiness, particularly after dinner; the night mare; and disturbed sleep.

By early attention to these symptoms, an attack of this disorder may be foreseen, and by due depletion and the preventive means hereafter recommended, it may often be prevented.

Causes.—The general cause of sanguine apoplexy is a plethoric habit of body, with a determination of blood to the head. It may therefore be brought on by whatever hurries on the circulation, so as to increase the afflux of blood

into the vessels of the head; such as violent exercise; passions of the mind; intoxication; violent vomiting, or straining. It may likewise be occasioned by whatever impedes the free return of blood from the head; as a tight ligature, or handkerchief round the neck; stooping down, or lying with the head lower than the body; looking behind, or upwards for some time.

In order to check the velocity of blood into the vessels of the brain, nature has made an admirable provision, by the circuitous direction in which the great artery passes through the bone of the head; and in proportion to the angle it makes, so will be the impetus of the blood; and I am inclined to believe that one cause of hereditary apoplexy is the direction of this canal, allowing of too free an admission of blood. The internal vessels of the head, likewise, being supported only by the soft medullary matter of the brain, instead of the solid support of muscles, skin, &c. which they have in other parts of the body, are more easily distended or ruptured *.

* Some time since, I was requested to examine the head of a gentleman who had suddenly died of apoplexy. In the right hemisphere of the brain, there was a considerable extravasation of blood, and on the left side I discovered some coagulated blood, of a hardish consistence, which proved to be the remains of an effusion which had produced an apoplectic fit about twelve months before—a proof that a rupture of a vessel in the brain is

Treatment, &c.—The first and principal object to accomplish towards the recovery of the patient, is evidently the unloading of the vessels of the head, by cupping or scarifying the scalp or nape of the neck, and between the shoulders; or opening the temporal artery, which should be done as soon as possible after the attack.—Bleeding from the jugular vein, is much recommended by medical writers; but I conceive the unavoidable interruption to the return of blood from the head, by the ligature, to elevate or distend the vessel, for the purpose of opening, although temporary, will certainly increase the effusion of blood in the head, in case of a rupture of a vessel; or if distention only exist, it may produce a rupture, particularly if the vein do not rise readily or be soon opened. Blisters should likewise be applied to the head and between the shoulders. The next object is to increase the circulation of the blood in the extremities, by stimulating the feet and hands with

not necessarily a fatal occurrence; he was, however, afterwards much affected with head-ache, giddiness and drowsiness.

Dr. Buchan, in his Domestic Medicine, relates a case of a woman who died apoplectic; and states, that, "when her head was opened, a large quantity of extravasated blood was found in the left ventricle of the brain." The effusion of blood producing apoplexy, is either on the surface, or in the medullary matter of the brain; the membrane lining the ventricles, effectually preventing any extravasation of blood into them. The ventricles may be the seat of serous apoplexy, but cannot be of the sanguine species.

mustard poultice, No. 100. The action of the bowels should be promoted by a dose of the cathartic extract, No. 112, and the laxative clyster, No. 86. with the addition of two tablespoonfuls of common salt. The body should be kept nearly in an erect posture, and the head supported in that situation, as favouring the return of blood from, and at the same time checking its afflux into the head. The sooner these measures are put into execution, the greater will be the probability of success. It has been a question much agitated of late, whether the exhibition of an emetic is proper on the first attack of apoplexy; by producing an equal circulation throughout the system, it has often relieved congestion of the brain; but its operation is more likely to produce a rupture of a vessel in a state of distention; and if effusion has taken place, it will very likely increase it, or it may promote absorption. It is, at any rate, too ambiguous a remedy for domestic medicine.

Prevention.—People disposed to apoplexy, or who have ever experienced an attack, should be particular in keeping their feet warm, by wearing flannel socks, and the use of the waterproof soles, which I consider an excellent contrivance to keep the feet both dry and warm; and particularly to guard against plethora, by taking moderate exercise and avoiding full meals and

spirituous liquors. When in bed, the head should be much higher than the trunk, but not so as to bend the head forward on the chest, but by a gradual elevation from the feet to the head. When affected with the symptoms already noticed as denoting an approach of apoplexy, a brisk purge of aloes, a blister to the nape of the neck or head, and putting the feet in warm water, will often obviate an attack.—Snuff, by increasing the secretion of the nostrils, will likewise prove serviceable. General blood-letting having a tendency afterwards to produce plethora, should only be practised when apoplexy is immediately threatened—the application of leeches to the temples will often supersede its necessity. A seton or issue near the head, will prevent any turgescence of the blood, and is unquestionably the most effectual preventive that can be employed. The head should be shaved, and washed with cold water, once a day. A reclining posture and much sleep should be avoided, for nothing is more hurtful than too great an indulgence in bed. By a strict observance of these rules, a fit may be kept off for a great length of time, however predisposed the person may be to the disease *.

* I have known many that had experienced several attacks of apoplexy, procrastinate the fatal relapse for many years. The late Lady T. of Spring Gardens, by following such a plan, although she had received several attacks, attained a very great age.

DISTINCTION.—Apoplexy is distinguished from profound sleep, which it much resembles, by applying the smelling salts, or sal volatile, to the nostrils, which will immediately rouse a sleeping, but will have no effect on an apoplectic person; and from a fit of intoxication, by the paleness of the face, the smell of the breath, and manner of living.

Serous Apoplexy.

Doctor George Fordyce asserts that the compression of the brain, producing apoplexy, seldom or never arises from the serous part of the blood being extravasated, and adds, whether serum or blood be the cause, the same methods should be pursued for relief. When apoplexy occurs in a dropsical person, it may be referred to an effusion of serum, which, for its removal, will require the means suggested for the cure of sanguine apoplexy, with the omission of blood-letting. Cordials, which, in the sanguine apoplexy, are not allowed, would in this case be very proper; it indicates extreme debility of the system, and generally terminates fatally.

B. APHTHA, See *Thrush.*

B. APPETITE, LOSS OF, See *Indigestion.*

ASTHMA.

The true asthma is often an hereditary disease, and evidently of a spasmodic nature, occurring chiefly in sanguine habits and straight chests. Both youth and age are subject to it; in the former, if tubercles exist in the lungs, it will produce consumption; and in the latter, dropsy of the chest. When the complaint is attended with an expectoration of phlegm, it is termed *moist* or *humoral;* and when with none, *dry* or *nervous* asthma; but it is never so dry as to be entirely free from an expectoration of little tough phlegm.

Description.—An almost constant difficulty of breathing, with exacerbations towards evening or during the night, threatening suffocation, with a sense of tightness across the chest, the breathing being performed slowly, and with a wheezing noise: if the patient is lying down when the fit comes on, which is often suddenly, he is obliged to change the posture for one more erect, and requires a free cool air. These symptoms gradually abate towards morning, and the fit seems to end in an expectoration of phlegm from the lungs.

CAUSES.—The principal cause of asthma, in England, is obstructed perspiration, producing a congestion of blood in the vessels of the lungs. Dr. Cullen says, it depends on a particular constitution of the lungs, and its proximate cause is a spasmodic constriction of the muscular fibres of the wind-pipe and its subdivisions, preventing the expansion necessary for a full and free inspiration. The immediate and exciting cause is, as Dr. Dover asserts, a determination to the lungs.

TREATMENT.—If the symptoms run high with pain in the chest, or great difficulty of breathing, the loss of eight or ten ounces of blood, with a blister over the breast-bone, or between the shoulders, should always precede the use of medicine, in case the subject be not aged. Two or three table-spoonfuls of the asthmatic mixture, No. 57, may afterwards be taken three times a day, with the pills, No. 68, twice a day. In obstinate cases, half a tea-spoonful of æther, No. 12, with fifteen drops of laudanum, No. 18, every night, or during the fit, or the inhaling of the vapours of æther, evaporated in a warm saucer, as recommended by Dr. Temple, will afford considerable relief, and, if it does not prevent, will much shorten the paroxysm. The pectoral plaster, No. 97, should be kept over the breast-bone, as soon as the blister is healed. If the

patient is young, or middle aged, a low diet should be observed, without malt-liquor; but if aged, and the disease is attended with swelling of the legs, a generous diet, and a beverage of spirit of juniper, commonly called Hollands, diluted with water, will be proper. A double flannel waistcoat, in all cases, should be worn next the skin. Troches of the squill, combined with benzoin, is a composition well calculated to relieve asthmatic or chronic difficulty of breathing, and, on account of their gradual solution in the mouth, will often answer better than pills. This medicine was much recommended by Dr. Fordyce, and a very similar one, in the form of pills, by Dr. Morton.

Prevention.—The use of a thick flannel waistcoat next the skin; occasional emetics of ipecacuan and a little oxymel of squills; the troches of squill and benzoin, dissolved gradually in the mouth, and swallowed about twice or thrice a day, and a seton or large issue between the shoulders, or in the side, will often succeed in preventing, and never fail to abate the violence of the paroxysm of asthma, and relieve the breathing during its absence. If the subject be advanced in years, or affected with swelling of the legs, an issue or seton will not be proper, as by extracting the glutinous part of the blood, it may induce dropsy of the chest. A

diet light and easy of digestion should be adopted, as broth, light puddings, fowl, veal, &c. and a little ginger used in the beverage, to obviate the flatulent effects of vegetables: good perry and cyder afford the most salutary beverage.

As asthmatic people are differently affected by the atmosphere, some breathing with ease only in pure country air, while others cannot live out of London; and I have known an asthmatic person that could not live either in the London or the country air, but breathe with tolerable freedom in the city of Bristol. Some require a condensed or cold air, while others can only live in a light one. Persons, therefore, afflicted with asthma, must consult their own feelings as to the place in which they should live.

Distinction.—This disease is distinguished from inflammation of the lungs and pleurisy, in being chronic, unattended with much pain or stitches in the chest, or fever.

BILIOUS AFFECTIONS.

It has of late years been a kind of fashion to attribute almost every derangement of the stomach and bowels, and even complaints of the head, to a redundancy, or an accumulation of bile

in the stomach, an idea founded in error, and first suggested by designing quaçks, that they might the better impose their trash on the credulous public, too often to the irreparable injury of the digestive powers of those who are induced to take their antibilious medicines. No secretion in the human body is more regular than that of the bile, or less disposed to be vitiated; and was it not disturbed by the action of strong cathartics (generally composed of mercury) taken for the purpose of carrying off a supposed redundancy, it would continue healthy, and in due quantity. The biliary duct, for conveying the bile from the liver and gall bladder, terminating in the intestine, the bile cannot get into the stomach, unless forced into it by the effort of vomiting, or by a reversion of the peristaltic motion of the intestines, which is a very rare occurrence. When, through the obstruction of biliary concretions, or spasms, the bile cannot flow into the intestines, it is taken up into the circulation, by the absorbent vessels of the liver, so as to tinge the white of the eyes and skin of a yellow appearance, and the intestines become in an indolent state, and the stools white, from the loss of the stimulating and colouring matter of the bile, which constitutes the disease named jaundice. In cases of indigestion there is generally a deficiency of bile, through a sluggish state of the

liver; and in these cases we find people most complain of a *preternatural collection of the bile*, when the reverse is in reality the case. Hence, medicines which approach near to the nature of the bile, uniformly give relief in those cases, and which may with more propriety be termed bilious, than anti-bilious medicines. (See Indigestion.) When a redundancy of bile is evident from bilious stools, elixir of vitriol, by decomposing it, will afford a safe and efficacious remedy, while the brisk cathartics of aloes and calomel, only give temporary relief, and aggravate the cause; but when a redundancy or deficiency of bile exists, it should not be treated as a primary affection, but considered a symptom of some disease, in which the strong anti-bilious medicines of illiterate empirics may do irreparable mischief.

The most eccentric, unintelligible doctrines of the bile have lately been issued from the *Elaboratory* of the *Rev.* Wm. Barclay. This *divine* empiric boldly asserts it to be "the fruitful parent of the complicated bodily miseries to which human nature is heir, (such as gout, rheumatism, nervous affections, &c. &c.) that we bring it into the world with us; that the *first pang* the *infant* suffers proceeds from it, and that it *haunts* us more or less during our con-

tinuance in it*." As if the beneficent Creator of man, had planted in his frame so large a viscus, for no other purpose than to secrete a fluid to torment him during his state of innocency, and torture him throughout the course of his life. Passing over the absurdity of the doctrine, it is much too impious and bare faced to require any animadversion. What is still however, more extraordinary, this enlightened theologist has discovered, as if by divine revelation, without the aid of anatomy, physiology, pharmacy, or pathology, an infallible remedy for the expulsion of this great "*intestinal enemy*," to which he gives the comprehensive title of "*Patent Antibilious Pills*." In his public commendation of their virtues, he strongly recommends them as a family medicine—declaring that they will prove "serviceable to all persons of a *sedentary life*"—that they infallibly cure the "gout, rheumatism, gravelly complaints, nervous affections, disorders of the stomach"—that they "are of essential *service* to many of the *female sex*," and afford a "*spe-*

* The only disease that is produced by a vitiated secretion of bile is the cholera morbus, which consists in a copious evacuation of bile, both by stool and vomiting. In such cases, I have no hesitation in asserting, that one dose of the Rev. William Barclay's *Patent* Antibilious Pills would endanger, if not destroy the life of the patient, by producing inflammation in the bowels.

cific for that most fatal disorder, the yellow fever." He likewise *exhorts* the "bons vivants" to occasionally employ them. Thus, diseases remote in their origin, and very opposite in their nature, are subdued by this lucky discovery; and what is still more unaccountable, it appears the first characters in the church of England, and one of their chaplains have come forward (as it were from an *irresistible impulse of conscience*) to add their testimonies of the efficacy of this nostrum; but whether they have derived advantages in cases of gout, sedentary life, or as *bons vivants,* this conscientious divine does not condescend to inform us. One would, however, have supposed that such characters, from their elevated situation in life, would have had a greater regard for their own reputation, than to have lent their names for such purposes as the countenancing of quackery. One would indeed have thought, that a regard for the clerical character would have sufficiently deterred them from tarnishing it, by the odium it incurs, when involved in the most pernicious traffics existing in human nature. To tamper with the lives of our fellow-creatures is traducing the character of man alone; no motives of ambition, of pecuniary aggrandisement, can palliate an evil so predominant at the present day; but when we see a clergyman abandoning his sacred character, by adverting to em-

piricism from mere motives of lucre, it becomes an incumbent duty to protest against his nostrums, which endanger the lives and happiness of the public.

Not only the fallacy of his doctrines, but the *exorbitant price* of the medicine, without any other evidence, are sufficient to convince the public the doctrines he preaches are not for the good of the public, but the good of himself; for, not satisfied with the *tithe* allowance of one tenth, he conscientiously puts a price on his articles that yield a profit of nine parts in ten. From a conviction that this practice will be discountenanced by the present abettors of it; from a recent case that has occurred within my own practice, which, from the veneration I feel for the clerical character, I am induced to suppress in this place. I shall take my leave of the subject with an applicable quotation from a *sermon* preached by the late Reverend Laurence Sterne,

"So great are the difficulties of tracing out the hidden causes of the evils to which this frame of ours is subject—that the most candid of the profession have ever allowed and lamented how unavoidably they are in the dark. So that the best medicines, administered by the wisest heads, shall often do the mischief they were intended to prevent. These are misfortunes to which we are subject in this state of

darkness; but when men without skill—without education—without knowledge either of the distemper, or even of what they sell—make merchandize of the miserable—and, from a dishonest principle—trifle with the pains of the unfortunate—too often with their lives—and from the mere motive of a dishonest gain—every such instance of a person bereft of life by the hand of ignorance, can be considered in no other light than a branch of the same root. It is murder in the true sense; which, though not cognizable by our laws—by the laws of right, every man's own mind and conscience, must appear equally black and detestable."

SERMON, XXXV. 109.

BLEEDING AT THE NOSE

In young people, arises from a plethoric state of the arteries; and in the far advanced in life, of the veins.

Description.—It is in general confined to one nostril, occurring for the most part in warm weather, and sometimes preceded by head-ach, redness of the face and eyes, noise in the ears, giddiness, frightful dreams, the night mare, coldness of the extremities, &c.

Treatment.—In young people it may be considered a slight disease, and scarcely worth notice, unless it be profuse, or the patient be of

a sanguine habit, when the loss of blood from the arm will be proper, and the occasional use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, or the neutral purgative salts, No. 2. After due evacuations from the bowels, the cooling powders, No. 78, may be taken two or three times a day, in cold water. Vinegar diluted with water should be applied cold to the nostrils, and if these fail to stop the bleeding, dossils of lint should be introduced, moistened with vinegar, or tincture of myrrh, which, by coagulating the blood, and compressing the ruptured vessel, will always succeed if properly managed. The diet should be low and taken cold, and the extremities kept warm. If it arises from suppressed evacuations, aleotic purges should be employed, and the legs be frequently immersed in warm water. When attendant on putrid fever, it happens from the weak state of the vessels, and should be stopped by the compressive means suggested above. When it occurs in old age, and is preceded by head-ach and drowsiness, it should be considered a symptom of approaching apoplexy, and the preventive means already recommended for that disease, should be immediately had recourse to.

In all cases of bleeding of the nose, the grand point to determine is, whether it be salutary or otherwise—which in cases of ambiguous fever is often extremely difficult to decide. I

have known fevers, pronounced by physicians of eminence to be putrid, suddenly cured by a voluntary copious discharge of blood from the nostrils, which, at the time, was considered a most unfortunate circumstance.

Whatever will produce rigours, or slight shivering of the body, as a cold key to the back, sprinkling the face with cold water, &c. will often immediately check the loss of blood, not only from the nose, but a divided blood vessel on the surface of the body.

People subject to this complaint should be particular in keeping their feet warm, and obviating plethora by moderate exercise and spare diet.

BLOOD, Discharge of, from the Urinary Passage

Is a symptomatic affection, and considered merely as a bleeding, is seldom dangerous; the cure of course will consist in the removal of the primary cause. The symptoms may be relieved, by drinking weak mucilaginous liquors, as linseed tea, or a decoction of marsh mallow root. If attended with plethora, bleeding from the arm, and frequent doses of castor oil, No. 3, should not be omitted. The saline purgatives are improper, on account of their increasing the irritating property of the urine. The diet should be low, unless the patient be much reduced, or

the discharge of blood arises from ulceration in the kidneys or bladder; and in this case, stimulants, as pepper, salt, &c. should be avoided.

When it is occasioned by the mechanical effects of stone in the bladder, or gravel, it will require the treatment recommended for these complaints. When ulceration is the cause, which is known from its being attended with a discharge of matter, spirit of turpentine, in the dose of 12 drops in marsh mallow root tea, has generally a very happy effect. The ura ursi in those affections of the bladder and kidneys, has proved particularly serviceable, and is the only astringent that can with safety be employed; half an ounce of the leaves may be infused in a pint of boiling water for six hours, and a wine glassful of the strained liquor, taken about three times a day with the spirit, of turpentine above directed.

C. BLOODY FLUX. See Dysentery.

BOILS

Arise from bad habit of body; their suppuration should in all cases be promoted by the application of a little gum-plaster, No. 108, spread on leather, or the poultice, No. 101. After they break they require only to be kept clean, and defended against the external air, by

a little diachylon plaster, or spermaceti ointment, till they are healed. An alterative aperient powder of calomel and jalap, No. 26, should be taken about twice a week, at least for four doses; and if, after their suppuration, the patient should be much reduced, the tonic mixture, No. 66, will have a good effect in strengthening the system, and correcting the constitution.

BOILS OF THE GUM.

Cause.—Are the consequences of a fit of the tooth-ach, cold, external violence, and disease of the jaw-bone.

Treatment.—When it arises from a carious tooth, its extraction is necessary if practicable. Suppuration should be promoted, by the application of a roasted fig; and after the matter is evacuated, the mouth should be frequently rinsed out with the acidulated gargle, No. 82.

BRUISES AND SPRAINS.

In cases of violent sprains, or inflammation, the part should be obviated, by the application of leeches, and afterwards the discutient lotion, No. 91, to which may be added, in case of much pain, half an ounce of laudanum, No. 18. The aperient mixture, No. 51, should be taken occa-

sionally, and the saline mixture, No. 67, if fever should intervene. If leeches cannot be readily procured, and the inflammation should run high, eight or ten ounces of blood should be taken from the arm; the diet low.

Superficial bruises may generally be recovered by the application of opodeldoc, No. 105, or the discutient lotion, No. 91, with the occasional use of the aperient salts, No. 2, or mixture, No. 51; but if the part has sustained much injury, a partial mortification may be suspected, which in an elderly person may terminate unfavourably; such cases should always be referred to practitioners in surgery.

BUBO. See Venereal Disease.

BURNS AND SCALDS.

Slight burns or scalds may in general be cured by the liniment, No. 93, or lotion, No. 91. In case fever should intervene, the aperient mixture, No. 51, or the neutral salts, No. 2, and the saline mixture, No. 67, will be necessary. After the operation of the aperient medicine, five or six drops of laudanum, No. 18, may be added to each dose of the saline mixture, particularly if the accident is of much extent; diet low.

When the mischief is extensive or deep, there is always so great a tendency to mortification, both in youth and age, as to render it an unfit case for domestic practice.

CANCER.

Description.—Most commonly affects the glandular parts of the body, generally after the fortieth year of a persons age, and very rarely before. It is distinguished by *ocult* and *open;* by the former is meant its infant state, which is a hard scirrhous swelling, attended with frequent shooting pain; by degrees the skin becomes discoloured, and ulceration sooner or later takes place, when the disease is said to terminate in *open cancer*; the edges of which soon become callous, ragged, and unequal, with great lancinating, and a kind of burning pain, attended with a thin dark-coloured fœtid ichorous discharge, which is often so acrimonious as to inflame, excoriate, and frequently destroy the surrounding skin. From the corrosion of the vessels there is sometimes a considerable discharge of blood.

Cause.—Respecting the cause of this disease, there have been a great many conjectures, without much foundation; some contending that it arises from a general disorder in the

system, and others that it is inits infancy entirely local, and that the constitution is contaminated, by an absorption of the virus from the open cancer. It is generally excited by bruises or contusions, and therefore more frequently occurs in the breast and lips.

TREATMENT.—No medicine has yet been discovered, capable of specifically curing this disease; various poisons, both of the mineral and vegetable kingdoms, have been recommended, which often injure the constitution, without affording much apparent relief. Even the pretensions of empirics have not escaped the examination of practitioners of candour, and their nostrums have been tried with perseverance, without any evident advantage whatever; and it must be acknowledged, that since the time of Hippocrates, (a period of upwards of two thousand years) notwithstanding the important discoveries that have been made in the anatomy and physiology of the human body, and in chemystry, we can add nothing new as to the nature, cause, or even symptoms of this disorder that has not been noticed by that accurate detailer of diseases. The very flattering reports of medical men, on the effects of the exhibition of different airs, and particularly the topical application of fixed air to the open cancer, ample experience has proved erroneous, and the practice is very deservedly abandoned, even by

those who were its warmest advocates. In fact, the different specifics recommended by practitioners in this country, and on the Continent, have turned out mere palliatives.

Dr. Lambe, a physician of great celebrity, in his minute examination into the properties, &c. of common water, detected not only a portion of lead, (from the use of leaden cisterns, pumps, and pipes) but also a mineral salt, which he asserts to be so extremely prejudicial to the human frame, as to be the cause of those chronic diseases which so often baffle the medical art. From this conviction, the learned Doctor confined his patients, afflicted with such diseases, to the use of water divested of these obnoxious combinations by the process of distillation; and it appears that in several instances, some of which are cancerous, his apprehensions have been happily confirmed. I have had an opportunity of witnessing the salutary effects of his treatment in two very obstinate cases with the Doctor, and have since much employed it with the most flattering success, which I shall notice under the heads of the different diseases, in the cure of which it is likely to prove serviceable. I have now two cases of cancer under my care, in which it has proved highly beneficial, and from the great progress they have made, I have no doubt but they will in a short

time be perfectly cured. It may appear extraordinary that an article so perfectly innocent should be capable of curing the most formidable disease that assails human nature; but simple as it may on first view appear, I am persuaded that it is a more powerful alterative than any article in the materia medica, that is, capable of producing a greater alteration in the system from a state of disease to health, than any medicine we are acquainted with. In cancerous complaints, the use of distilled water changes the blackish appearance and fœtor of the stools, which the ancient physicians considered the cause of the disease. It likewise alters the peculiar countenance of cancerous patients, prevents the dark incrustation of the teeth, and destroys the fœtor of the breath, which were noticed by Hippocrates, Aretæus and others, as proofs of the vitiated state of the juices in cancerous patients. This pure water evidently promotes digestion, and prevents the acid corruption of the food in the stomach and bowels, and thus produces that salubrious alteration in the chyle, that the state of the constitution, in the course of a little time seems to be changed; which from the mutation the body is constantly undergoing, there can be no doubt, but by deviation from the use of an accustomed bad aliment a revolution may be accomplished, and the can-

cerous contamination of the system be so counteracted as to render the disease local, and in time to destroy it entirely; but to produce this salubrious change in the constitution, the distilled water, or the Malvern water, (in Worcestershire) which is exactly the same, should be ployed in every article of diet, as tea, broth, puddings, &c. &c. and to constitute the principal beverage of the patient, or if malt liquor should be preferred, it should be made with it. Genuine claret, perry, or cyder, may be taken in moderate quantities, but port wine and spirits are highly injurious. The diet should principally consist of milk, vegetables, and a small proportion of animal food.

Experience has sufficiently proved that chronic diseases will not readily yield even to active remedies; so by this mode of treatment no advantage will appear till this change of constitution is effected, which will sometimes require a period of three or four months; but as the plan is simple, and does not exclude the employment of any constitutional or topical remedies that may be suggested by men of judgment, it cannot be objected to on that account; in cases of such a nature it is fortunate to obtain a cure at any rate. During the use of this alterative, the means may be employed to palliate or suspend the local disease; thus, if it be in an

infant or schirrous state, the progress to ulceration may be checked by the application of leeches, or an issue near the part affected, and the occasional use of aperient and anodyne medicines; of the latter kind the cicuta, being at the same time a discutient, will answer best. The preparations of this herb kept in the shops are certainly not to be depended on. In making the extract generally prescribed, by the long boiling necessary to reduce it to a proper consistence, the volatile and active parts of the medicine are dissipated and destroyed; and if the leaves should not be speedily and cautiously dried for the purpose of powdering, their medicinal properties will be impaired by a fermentative process that will take place in a short time. The herb should be gathered when beginning to flower, and great care should be taken that it be the true cicuta, or conium maculatum of Linnæus, which is distinguished by red spots along the stalk. The leaves should be separated from the stems, and being spread on a broad plate, should be quickly and carefully dried in a hot oven, so as not to scorch them or alter their colour; they should then be reduced to powder, and kept in a stopper bottle for use. The mode of administering this medicine is, by beginning with the small dose of two grains (made into a pill with a little conserve of hips),

twice a day, and augmenting it gradually till the patient begins to experience some unpleasant effects in the head and stomach; by these means the dose may sometimes be pushed so far as thirty or forty grains in 24 hours.

If the disease has proceeded to ulceration, the surrounding inflammation, or burning pain may be relieved by the application of leeches, or an issue in the neighbourhood, and soft anodyne dressings. The topical application of fixed air, or a carrot and turnip poultice, will destroy the fœtor, and sometimes correct the discharge and assuage the pain.

Whatever be the situation of the disease, whether the breast, womb, tongue, lip, &c. the same alterative mode of regimen must be strictly observed, and such of the above applications as the situation will admit of.

If ulceration has taken place to a considerable extent before the alterative diet is employed, it may be necessary to have recourse to other means to suspend the disease till the revolution in the constitution can be effected, which should be left to a surgeon of experience.

I have thus been particular in detailing a mode of treatment, of which I entertain a most sanguine opinion.

CATARACT

Is an opacity of the crystalline humour of the eye, preventing the rays of light passing to the optic nerve, and thus producing blindness. If the retina, which is an expansion of the optic nerve in the inside of the eye, is not diseased, vision may, in most cases, be restored, by either depressing the diseased lens, or extracting it entirely, which is technically termed *couching*.

With respect to the advantage of one operation over the other there is a great difference of opinion.—Mr. Ramsden, of the College of Physicians, a surgeon of the first respectability, gives the decided preference to the depression of the lens; and the appointment held by that gentleman of surgeon to St. Bartholomew's Hospital must have enabled him to determine which method is generally the most beneficial. This operation is less painful and hazardous than extraction, and will ultimately answer, if the lens happens to be soft (which cannot always be foreseen); if it be not wholly depressed after breaking the cyst or tunic, it will be removed by absorption, which may be promoted by the exhibition of a little mercury. The only objection to this operation, is, that the lens will sometimes rise again; but this certainly does not oc-

cur often. Oculists, in general, recommend the extraction of the lens; but it must be allowed that the intention is too often frustrated by the inflammation and consequent thickening of the tunics of the eye after the operation; and it not unfrequently happens, that, after the patient has gone through pain of the incision, the lens is too soft to be removed entirely. The depression of the lens, on account of its being simple, less painful, attended with no risk, and certainly answering as often as the extraction, is entitled to the preference.

Some well authenticated instances of an absorption of an opake lens, by the internal use of mercury, have lately been published, and the practice is certainly worth a trial, as no injury can result from it.

In recent cases, Mr. Ramsden has found the muriate of mercury to answer best. He directs eight grains to be dissolved in an ounce of spirit of wine, and ten drops to be taken in a glass of thin gum arabic tea twice a day; after taking it a week, the dose may be increased to twenty, or even thirty drops, if the stomach will bear it. If this remedy is likely to answer, the good effects will be manifested in three weeks; electric sparks to the ball of the eye will often prove of great utility. Cicuta has lately been much extolled as a remedy for cataract; it may be given as directed for Cancer, page 178.

Dr. Buchan states, in his Domestic Medicine, that "he has resolved recent cataracts by giving the patient frequent purges with calomel, keeping a poultice of fresh hemlock constantly on the eye, and a perpetual blister on the neck." But as, in his definition of the disease, he is not quite correct in ascribing it to an obstruction of the pupil from an opaque substance, generally an opacity of the crystallised humour, these cases were probably only a thickening of the external tunics of the eye from inflammation, which his remedies are well calculated to remove; but certainly the external application of a poultice and perpetual blister to the neck could have but little effect on a true cataract.

CATARRH, CORYZA, OR INFLUENZA,

Consists in an increased excretion of mucus from the internal surface of the nostrils, fauces, and often the lungs, attended with slight fever, and a little cough. It generally begins with a sense of stoppage in the nose, a dull pain, and a sense of weight in the forehead and stiffness in the motion of the eyes, and soon after a distillation of a thin fluid from the nose, and often the eyes, somewhat acrid, which constitute the complaint technically termed *coryza*, and, when epedemic, *influenza*.

In the spring of the year 1803, catarrhal affection were, from the great vicissitudes in the atmosphere, very general, and all varieties were included under the common name of influenza, and even when the symptoms run high, so as to constitute pleurisy, inflammation of the lungs or brain, they were all classed under the same denomination, and many practitioners endeavoured to prove, from its being epidemic, that it was infectious. It is to be feared, however, that the employment of this general term led to a mal-treatment of the different varieties by apothecaries.

Cause.—This disease evidently arises from the effect of cold producing an afflux of fluids to the membrane of the nose, fauces, and lungs, by checking the natural perspiration of the skin.

Cure.—When the febrile symptoms are moderate, it is commonly sufficient to avoid cold, and abstain from animal food for some days; but when these symptoms are considerable, it will be proper to lie in bed, and take frequently some mild diluent drink, a little warmed, as bohea tea, barley water, gruel, or weak white wine whey, to promote gentle perspiration. The cough mixture, No. 55, should be taken every three or four hours, and if attended with pain in the

chest, and great difficulty of breathing, or the patient be of a consumptive habit, the loss of blood from the arm, and the application of a blister to the side most affected, or over the breast-bone, should not be delayed. The diet should be low, and the common beverage barley-water, with a little liquorice root boiled in it.

CANINE MADNESS. See Animal Poison, Page 110.

CHANCRE. See Venereal Disease.

CHIN COUGH. See Hooping Cough.

CHICKEN POX.

Description.—This eruption sometimes appears without any illness or previous sign, but most commonly it is preceded by slight fever. The vesicles are always distinct and less in size than those of the small pox; on the second day there is on the top of most of them, a very small bladder, about the size of a millet seed, containing a thin, colourless, and sometimes a yellowish liquor. The disease in general terminates in three or four days, from the first appearance of the eruption, and attended with so little danger as to require no restraint of diet, or medical treatment.

CHILBLAINS.

DESCRIPTION.—Are inflammatory swellings, chiefly affecting the heels, feet, and toes, and sometimes the arms and hands, attended with great pain and degree of itching.

CAUSE.—It is owing to a weaker action of the small vessels most remote from the heart, occasioned by cold or dampness, and occurs most frequently in people of delicate constitutions.

TREATMENT.—When the parts are frost-bitten by long exposure to the cold, they should be plunged into the coldest water, and afterwards rubbed with salt. When they are only benumbed, they may be rubbed with spirit of wine and camphor, or opodeldoc, No. 105, to which a little laudanum may be added, if the pain, or itching be very troublesome; but when they crack and discharge an acrid matter, poultices should be applied, but not for any length of time, as their continuance is apt to produce fungous excrescences. Diachylon plaster, on leather, and avoiding the occasional cause, will afterwards effect a cure.

CHILDREN. Diseases of

See Nursing and Treatment of Children, Page 118.

CLAP. See Venereal Disease.

CŒLIAC PASSION. [See Diarrhœa.

COLIC.

Description.—Is known by a violent pain in the bowels, commonly about the navel. The pain resembles various kinds of sensations, as, of burning, twisting, boring, or a ligature drawn very tight round the intestines. The belly is generally costive; when there is a violent evacuation of bilious matter, both upwards and downwards, it constitutes the disease termed cholera morbus.

The great difficulty in discriminating colic from inflammation of the bowels, renders this disease improper for domestic practice; if, therefore, it should prove obstinate, or attended with rigors and fever, medical assistance should be procured without loss of time, as the intestines will not sustain inflammation many hours, before irreparable mischief will ensue.

CAUSE.—It may arise from any sudden check given to perspiration; from austere, acid, or indigestible aliments taken into the stomach; the application of poisons, as lead, &c. and sometimes worms.

TREATMENT.—The first attempt should be to evacuate the contents of the intestines, by the use of castor oil, No. 3, with aperient mixture, No. 51, and the clyster, No. 86. The spasmodic affections of the bowels may be relieved by fomentation, or the warm bath, and the use of ten to twenty drops of laudanum, No. 18, the occasional exhibition of the anti-spasmodic mixture, No. 59, and clyster, No. 87. If attended with fever and full pulse, the loss of blood from the arm will be proper, to prevent inflamation of the bowels. The dose of laudanum may be increased, or repeated, according to the severity of the pain, while the remedies are employed to procure a stool.

PREVENTION.—People subject to this disease should avoid much vegetable food, and fermented liquors, and wear flannel next the skin.

CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS.

So prevalent is this disease in Great Britain, that, on an accurate calculation, it is supposed

to prove fatal to no less than eighty thousand persons annually, and these generally in the prime of life. By the London Bills of Mortality, it appears on an average of the last six years, that nearly one third of the inhabitants die consumptive, and that it has latterly become more prevalent among us. The melancholy frequency and uniform fatality of this disease, induced me, at an early period of my physical studies, to acquire every information connected with it; so that I have not neglected to avail myself of these important advantages which my public appointments have afforded me, of examining the bodies of those that fell a sacrifice to it: nor have I been content with the facts which my own experience has furnished me with, but have carefully searched the records of ancient and modern authors, and in my enquiries I have been aided by a correspondence on the subject with the first medical characters in Europe, which enable me decisively to state, that the general failure of medicine is more attributable to the imperfection of our art, than the absolute incurable nature of the disease. That the cure of a confirmed consumption is difficult, both from its internal situation, and constant dilatation and contraction of the lungs in respiration, must be allowed; but the great error, I am persuaded, arises in medical practitioners not making a proper distinction between the different species

that occur in this country, and thus referring them all to the common head of consumption of the lungs, and subjecting them to the same mode of treatment, although some, most assuredly, require very opposite remedies. The disease is not a primary affection, but the effect of some previous attack of the lungs, and of course must vary according to the nature of that disease of which the ulceration is the sequel; and were medical men more particular in ascertaining the original disease, they would be more successful in its treatment. From these observations, the impropriety and danger of a universal remedy must appear obvious. The advertised nostrums, I am convinced, never cured a confirmed case, but from the anodyne stimulating ingredients of which they are made, certainly have accelerated their fatal termination. To the use of these medicines, (sold under the name of *Cough Drops*, and as pretended balsams of vegetables) a principal cause of the disease in this country may be justly refered, for there can be no doubt, but by proper treatment the progress of incipient consuption may be checked, which by these medicines is hastened to a state of suppuration, and consequent ulceration.

A Monsieur Regnault, who (it appears from his own statement) has been a practitioner in France, lately published a pamphlet, entitled

"Observations on Pulmonary Consumption, &c." which instead of containing any definition of the disease, is swelled out with extracts from different authors on the Continent, who have written on the properties of the Lichen Islandicus, or Iceland moss, which contains nothing more on the subject, than was made known by that much esteemed physician Dr. Aikin, in his edition of Lewis's Dispensatory, and by several English authors; but so great is the difference between the diseases of the lungs that occur in France and Italy, and those of this country, that they were considered as undeserving attention; and certain it is, that from the regularity and temperature of the climate, and mode of living of the French nation, diseases of the lungs, there termed consumptions, are readily cured by simple medicaments and diet, and scarcely differ from the common catarrh of this country. Before Monsieur Regnault published his observations, he should have made himself acquainted with the nature of British consumptions, and the high state of medical knowledge to which the profession of this country have happily attained—he would then have known, that the preparations of the Iceland moss, (viz. a simple syrup, jelly, and lozenges) puffed off in the public prints, under his sanction, are not adapted even to a palliation of this disease, and the practice unworthy a

character that soars above empiricism. A specious correspondence between this Doctor and a pretended invalid, appeared some time since in the Morning Chronicle, which evinces his artifice more than erudition. The observations he has there made, in answer to his pretended invalid, prove him to be deficient in pharmaceutical knowledge; and the curious account he has given in his pamphlet of the effects of mucilaginous substances on the human body, must have exposed him, in the sight of every *regular* practitioner, viz. that they "*lubricate the membranes and parieties of the viscera* and *coats* of the *vessels, envelope* and *destroy* the acrimony of the juices," &c. Such doctrines may do in France and Iceland, but in this country, the effects of aliments and medicines are much better understood. As I consider this work likely to mislead consumptive people, by inducing them to trust to the simple preparations therein recommended, and thereby lose the advantges that a rational mode of treatment would afford, if adopted in time, I thought it an incumbent duty to caution the public against it.

In a treatise, which I published last December on the antiphthisical properties of the Lichen Islandicus, I noticed the different species of pulmonary consumption that occur in this country, and I am fully persuaded that it is absolutely necessary the nature of the disease be

determined before any mode of treatment can be employed with a probability of succcess. The most prevalent species arises from the little small tubercles of the lungs, evidently of a scrophulous nature, and which I shall consider under the name of

SCROPHULOUS CONSUMPTION OF THE LUNGS, (Technically termed PHTHISIS SCROPHULOSA).

These tubercles often exist many years, without even affecting respiration; but from an increased febrile action in the system, a determination to the lungs from obstructed perspiration, or at the period of life when a female should menstruate, or the male arrives at his acme, or full growth, they become inflamed, and constitute what is called *incipient consumption*, which is evinced by febrile heats, pain in the chest, dry cough, difficulty of breathing, &c. In this stage, as we know of no medicine capable of resolving the tuberculous concretions, the most active means should be employed to prevent the formation of matter in them, (it is at this period that heating anodyne medicines of quacks are so hurtful) for if suppuration once takes place, the consequent ulcerations that ensue are of that obstinate nature, that the recovery of the patient must be considered very doubtful. For this purpose it will be absolutely necessary that

the patient should lose some blood from the arm, and that a blister be applied over the breast bone, or between the shoulders, and after the operation of a little gentle aperient medicine (as the Mixture, No. 51.) two table-spoonfuls of the following mixture should be taken every three or four hours, to produce a determination to the skin, allay the cough, and check the velocity of the circulation through the lungs:

Take of Almond Emulsion, six ounces,
Tincture of Fox Glove,
Ipecacuan Wine, of each one drachm,
Syrup of White Poppies, six drachms.
Mix.

The discharge of the blister or blisters should be kept up, by dressing them (after the dead cuticle is entirely removed) with the savin ointment, till the irritation in the lungs is removed.

The diet should consist of vegetable jellies (without wine), as arrow root, sago, tapioca, gruel, &c. and the common beverage barley water, in which a little liquorice root, or raisins may be boiled. By these means the increased action may be supended, and by the use of flannel next the skin, and a strict abstemious diet, they may be kept in a quiet state till they become vascular, or absorbed, the latter of which, Dr. Cullen thinks, often takes place.

When the inflammation has unfortunately advanced to suppuration, and consequent ulceration, it is termed

Purulent, or *Confirmed Consumption*.

In this stage we have the formidable symptoms of hectic fever to combat, from whence the bad effects of ulcerated lungs on the vital functions arise; for, without this constitutional affection, I have known patients who have had ulcers in the lungs for thirty years, without experiencing any other inconvenience than a little difficulty of breathing, and a slight cough, an easy expectoration.

The ulcers, in proportion to their number and size, discharge a quantity of purulent matter in the air vessels of the lungs, which is brought up by coughing, mixed or surrounded with phlegm, often streaked with blood, and generally offensive to the smell and taste, but sometimes salt or sweet. The hectic fever is of the remittent kind, occurring about noon, and again about five in the afternoon, which gradually increases till midnight. The cold shiverings are generally of a short duration—as the disease advances, the evening attacks soon become attended with colliquative perspirations, which increase through the whole course of the dis-

ease. The urine is of a high colour, and on standing deposits a bran-like sediment. The apetite is seldom affected, and the thirst not considerable. There are often pains in the belly, and cramps in the feet and calves of the legs. The tongue, which in the commencement was a little furred, becomes clean. In the far advanced stage, the throat is often a little inflamed and affected with a small eruption like the thrush. The eyes assume a pearly white appearance, and the face, in the absence of the fever pale, but during its recurrence is of a florid red, nearly of a circumscribed spot. The belly is sometimes bound, but in the far advanced stage a looseness always comes on. The weakness and emaciation of the body increase gradually, the hair at length falls off, with other signs denoting a great deficiency of nourishment. The feet are affected with dropsical swellings, but the senses and judgment remain entire, and the mind confident and full of hope. As the ulcerations of the lungs spread, so the discharge becomes more copious, and offensive to the smell. The pain, for the most part, is under the breast-bone, but often on the left, and sometimes on the right side. The difficulty of breathing is much increased on lying on either side, so that toward the last stage, the patient is obliged to lie on his back. Great emaciation and weakness of the constitution,

profuse sweat and looseness, characterise the last stage.

TREATMENT.—The Lichen Islandicus, or Iceland moss, should be employed in such quantities as directed in page 113, so as nearly to constitute the diet of the patient. The distilled water should be used in every article of diet, as recommended page 177. This water is a more powerful corrector of the scrophulous diathesis of the system than any medicine we are acquainted with, and in the cure of this species of pulmonary consumption will prove of the greatest advantage. It promotes digestion, removes the obstruction of the mesenteric glands, and produces that healthy formation of chyle, and change of constitution which are of the greatest importance in the cure of this disease. I have found the employment of this water so very beneficial, that of all the remedies I consider it the most important.

Foxglove has lately been much extolled as a remedy for this disease, and in this species, by checking the velocity of the circulation through the lungs, it may be employed with considerable advantage; but it often requires much judgment to regulate its doses. The saturated tincture is the best preparation of this herb, which may be given from ten to forty drops, twice a day, in a wine-glassful of the decoction of the Iceland liverwort, or as hereafter advised. If

the disease is far advanced, and attended with œdomatous swellings of the legs, it is inadmissible. In order to quiet or allay the morbid irritability of the lungs, and take off the determination to them, it will be proper to excite a little counter-irritation, and which should be kept up for some time; perpetual blisters have generally been employed for this purpose, but I have generally recommended a seton on the side most affected, or over the breast bone, on account of its exciting less constitutional sympathy, and in their effects I have never been disappointed; so that I consider them in this case indispensibly necessary. As an auxiliary application for this purpose, a Burgundy pitch plaster may likewise be applied between the shoulders. Flannel being a non-conductor of heat, may be advantageously worn next the skin, to obviate the bad effects of the sudden vicissitudes of this climate, and to produce a determination of perspirable matter to the skin. It should be fine, and the shirt made double, and changed every morning, for by moisture its peculiar effects are destroyed; the greatest care should be taken that it be always well dried before it is put on. A fleecy hosiery waistcoat, on account of thickness, will often answer better than flannel. Some have preferred a waistcoat made of the dried skins of hares, worn with the hairy side next the skin; but as they

act on the same principle, it is of little consequence which is adopted; one, however, is absolutely necessary.

The inhalation of anodyne and other vapours, from their topical application, one would suppose much good might be derived, but they have never answered my expectations, and in some instances, by exciting cough, they have certainly proved hurtful—they are therefore an ambiguous remedy, and should not be persisted in if they are found to irritate the lungs. The vapours of a strong decoction of poppy heads will answer better than the effluvia from resinous gums. If there be much pain in the bowels, particularly on pressure about the navel, a plaster may be applied over the part. I have always employed the gum ammoniac plaster, with mercury, with the most decided advantage.

To allay the cough, and facilitate expectoration, two table-spoonfuls of the following mixture should be taken three or four times a day:

Take of the Concentrated Infusion of the Iceland Moss, (See page 96.) six ounces,
Tincture of Foxglove, and
Tincture of Squills, of each sixty drops,
Syrup of White Poppies, one ounce.
Mix.

If the form of a pill should be prefered by the

patient, the following may be substituted for the mixture:

Take of Gum Ammoniac, one drachm,
Powdered Cicuta, twelve grains,
Ditto Digitalis, four ditto,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form a Mass.

To be divided into twenty-four pills, two to be taken three times a day, with a wine-glassful of the decoction of Iceland moss.

In case of much diarrhœa or looseness, the following mixture should be substituted for the preceding:

Take of Cretaceous Mixture, six ounces,
Ipecacuan Powder, eight grains,
Liquid Laudanum, twenty drops
Mix.

The native acids of vegetables I have often found beneficial in relieving the colliquative diarrhœa of consumptive people, while those from mentation never fail to aggravate them.

If the night sweats should continue profuse, the patient should take five or six drops of the acid elixir of vitriol, in each dose of the cough mixture, or with the pills; but during any affection of the bowels, this medicine must be omitted.

The feet should be kept warm, by the use of flannel socks, which should be well dried every morning before they are put on.

The air of large cities is certainly not quite so salubrious as that of the country, but the constant change that it is undergoing, from its rapid currency, I do not think it so hurtful as has generally been imagined. The air of Pentonville, I have reason to believe, is good, notwithstanding its contiguity to London, and I have known consumptive and asthmatic patients enjoy a better state of health there than any part of England. Although the country air may, in point of purity have a trifling advantage, it is often too keen for irritable lungs.

The exercise should be taken in proportion to the strength of the patient, and that adopted which does not require much muscular exertion, which, by hurrying on the circulation, will prove hurtful. Riding in a carriage, or swinging in a machine, is a uniform and gentle motion, extremely favourable for consumptive patients, and instead of quickening the circulation, generally quiets the system, and diminishes the action of the heart and arteries. Sailing has, on the same principle, cured many obstinate diseases of the lungs.

The diet should be light, and consist principally of vegetables. Monsieur Regnault condemns the use of milk in consumption of the lungs; but the experience of many ages, as well as the arguments that may be adduced from analogy have proved, to the conviction of every

candid enquirer, that it affords the best nutriment to persons in such cases; if it should prove too heavy for the stomach, it may be mixed with a little barley-water or whey, which will often reconcile it to the stomach of those who could not otherwise bear it. Ass's milk being lighter than that of the cow, will often be retained on the stomach after the latter has been rejected; if the former, however, should be objected to, which is not unfrequent, an artificial sort may be made, not inferior in its properties to the natural, in the following manner: Take of eryngo root, and pearl barley, of each half an ounce—liquorice root, three ounces—distilled water, one quart—boil it down over a gentle fire to a pint, then strain it, and add an equal quanty of cow's milk.

It is of importance that the milk be taken from a healthy and well-nourished cow, not older than three or four years, and about the third month after producing calf. It should likewise be used as soon as possible after it comes from the cow, because, by long standing, or boiling, it undergoes such a decomposition as destroys its nutritious properties. It should likewise be milked into a bottle, by means of a funnel, and well corked, and exposed to the atmosphere as little as possible.

The lichen cocoa, made with milk, or equal parts of milk and distilled water, may be taken

for breakfast, and even supper, and light broth and puddings for dinner; which, with the decoction of the Iceland liverwort, or the farina, as described page 101, will be as much as the patient will require. The Indian arrow-root, isinglass, and tapioca, may be taken occasionally; and for the common beverage, the artificial ass's milk, barley or the distilled water will be sufficient. The use of animal food in substance, and wine, or spirits, or even malt liquor, is to be abandoned as highly injurious.

I shall notice a few cases of this species of pulmonary consumption, which I consider sufficiently desperate to prove the important adtages of the foregoing directions.

CASE 1.

Miss B——, Cecil-court, St. Martin's-lane, aged 16, of narrow chest, and scrophulous habit. She had been afflicted with cough, attended with great expectoration, and pains in the chest, for three years. I was requested to see her in the Spring of last year—she had then an incessant cough, copious expectoration of purulent matter, unpleasant to the taste and smell, and often streaked with blood—her legs were œdomatous, and from profuse nocturnal perspirations, and diarrhœa, she was then so reduced as to be con-

fined to her bed, with a pulse of 130. I candidly gave my opinion to her friends, that her situation was really hopeless, for such was her state of emaciation, that I did not conceive it possible that she could survive many days. I however directed her to take a decoction of the Iceland moss, which, with the auxiliary medicine, &c. above noticed, she was soon able to walk about, and is now, by perseverance, rendered capable of attending to a school which she has kept for some time.

CASE 2.

Mrs. C. the lady of Major C. of Great Russel-street, was attacked with cough in the month of December, 1803, which gradually increased till February 1804, when I was requested to see her. Her cough was so very troublesome as to prevent her sleeping at night, and the matter expectorated so unpleasant to the taste as to excite vomiting, in considerable quantities, and generally streaked with blood; nocturnal perspirations were copious, and chiefly confined to her chest she; was then much reduced by an affection of the bowels. On account of the active state of the disease in the lungs, I directed a blister to be applied over the breast bone, and

between her shoulders; and, by a strict adherence to the treatment above specified, she, in the course of six weeks, was restored to health, which she continues to enjoy. The lady was so partial to the distilled water, and lichen cocoa, that she lived on little besides.

CASE 3.

John B——e, Esq. a merchant in the city, aged 36, long neck, elevated shoulders, and narrow chest, had been troubled with cough upwards of six months. I was requested to meet Dr. P. in February last, who politely resigned him to my care. I desired he would immediately remove to a more pure air, in which he readily acquiesced, and in two days afterwards I was desired to visit him at Pentonville. He had every symptom of confirmed consumption, which by the means I have suggested gradually abated, so that in four months he was perfectly restored; and from preference, more than necessity, he still continues to use the lichen cocoa for breakfast, and the distilled water for his common beverage. He is the only surviving son of six, four of whom had died consumptive.

CASE 4.

Miss N. M. of Pimlico, aged 24, had been affected with great pains in the bowels, which was soon attended with cough, and an expectoration of purulent matter, streaked with blood, and other symptoms of confirmed consumption. The glands of the neck were a little tumefied, and the tonsils enlarged, and particularly callous to the touch. By the use of a seton in the side, lichen cocoa, distilled water, and the pills of cicuta, &c, notice page 199, she has made a considerable progress to a recovery, which in a fortnight I have no doubt will be completed.

I have several other cases, both of purulent and incipient consumption of the lungs, that have been cured by the foregoing means, which, with others now under my care, I shall shortly publish in the second edition of my Treatise on the Lichen Islandicus.

The next species of pulmonary consumption in point of frequency, that occurs in this country, is the

Pituitous Consumption of the Lungs,

which was first noticed by myself in the Treatise I published on the Lichen Islandicus, in

December last, and its occurrence has since been acknowledged by the first medical practitioners in this kingdom. It is of the greatest consequence that this species be properly ascertained, as the remedies recommended for the preceding species are highly improper in this case, and will tend to hasten its fatal termination.

This species of pulmonary consumption commences with the ordinary symptoms of catarrh, attended with considerable secretion of mucus from the internal surface of the lungs, often amounting to the quantity of four pounds in twenty-four hours—at first clear, inodorous and tasteless, but gradually becomes opake; and after two or three months, a kind of chronic inflammation on the internal surface of bronchia and their ramifications, supervene, and the matter expectorated becomes more vitiated, and of a purulent appearance, (as the discharge from other inflamed secreting surfaces) increased in quantity, but rarely streaked with blood; the patient, for the first time, now complains of pain in the chest, principally experienced on coughing, which is soon followed by the train of symptoms that characterise the purulent consumption. The patient at length is so reduced, as to be incapable of expectorating; the lungs become filled with the discharge, and the patient dies suddenly from suffocation!

The air vessels of the lungs, on dissection,

are found much distended with mucous matter, and are very ponderous, the internal surface inflamed, and after the removal of the contained mucus are very flaccid, and without any appearance of ulceration.

This species of pulmonary consumption appears to be very frequent in this country. It is generally the consequence of catarrh, which, by debilitating the lungs, produces a disease similar to that we observe occur in other secreting surfaces from relaxation; as the fluor albus or gleet, the discharge of which often assumes a purulent appearance, when affected with inflammation. The mucus expectorated in the last stage of this disorder, being taken by Mr. De Haen for pus, that author not being able to detect ulceration in the lungs of those who died of the disease, concludes that pus may be formed in the blood vessels, and from thence poured into the bronchia.

This disorder is often occasioned by the action of mercury on the lungs; and I believe it to be the same disease, as termed by nosologists *phthisis syphilitica*, from the supposition, that it is produced by the action of the venereal virus.

DISTINCTION.—This diseae may be distinguished from the true phthisis purulenta, in being attended with a more copious expectoration of mucous matter of the same appear-

ance throughout, and never tinged with blood; whereas the pus in the purulent phthisis may be *distinctly* observed, imperfectly blended with a clear mucus, and often streaked with blood. The hectic fever is likewise considerably milder, and does not occur till a later period of the disease. The matter expectorated is is inodorous and tasteless to the patient, but in the purulent phthisis it is offensive to the taste, and often to the smell; and the patient rarely affected with diarrhœa.

TREATMENT.—In addition to the use of the farina, and concentrated infusion of the lichen, as directed page 101, frequent emetics of ipecacuanha, or vitriolated zinc will prove of considerable advantage, by compressing the lungs, and thus forcing the mucus, secreted in them, into the bronchia and trachia, so as to be expectorated without the fatigue of much coughing. They likewise produce a salutary determination to the skin; and instead of debilitating the system, the patient uniformly feels an evident acquisition of strength, and will breathe with much greater freedom for some days. They should be repeated twice a week, or as often as the difficulty of respiration indicates a loaded state of the lungs, employing in the intermediate time tonic and expectorant medicines combined, as the folowing:

Take of Gum Myrrh, three drachms,
Infusion of Lichen Island. concentrated, a pint.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken four times a day.

Or the the following Mixture:

Take of Gum Ammoniac,
Essential Salt of Bark, two drachms of each,
Tinct. of Tolu, three drachms,
Infusion of the Lichen Island. concentrated, twelve ounces.

To be taken as the preceding.

In cases of profuse nocturnal perspirations, three drachms of the diluted sulphuric acid may be added to either of these mixtures.

A plaster of gum euphorbium, or Burgundy pitch should be applied over the breast bone, or between the shoulders.

The diet should be nutritious, and consist principally of animal jelly. Meat may be allowed, if the stomach will digest it. The distilled water should be used as directed for the scrophulous consumption.

Opium, by weakening or paralysing the powers of expectoration, is in this case inadmissible.

Foxglove, which is certainly an excellent remedy in the scrophulous, incipient, and purulent consumption, is a very dangerous medi-

cine in this species, and has in many instances, by weakening the powers of life, produced premature death—the increased impetus of the circulation in this case being for the purpose of oxygenating the blood.

CASE 1.

Mr. Morgan, aged 51, had been troubled with a cough upwards of eight years, which, in Sept. 1801, became very troublesome, and attended with a very copious expectoration, which, during the night, amounted to twenty ounces. After taking several medicines without effect, I was requested to meet his apothecary on the 13th of December, 1801.—The expectoration, he informed me, manifestly increased in quantity, and had latterly become offensive to the taste; that it had been, for the three preceding months, of a sweetish taste, resembling honey. He had experienced no diarrhœa; but, towards morning, he perspired very profusely. His legs swelled towards night, and from a corpulent man he was become very thin, with loss of appetite, and other symptoms of extreme debility. By the use of lichen cocoa, the mixture of myrrh, &c. a stimulating plaster over the breast bone and between the shoulders, a flannel waistcoat next the skin, and a nutritious diet, he was perfectly

restored, after his apothecary had declared him in the last stage of consumption.

Captain B. and the Rev. Mr. W. were similarly affected, and by the same means were restored. The former gentleman is so partial to the farina lichen, that he still uses it in broth, milk, and with cocoa. Several cases of this species, restored by this plan, will be noticed in the second edition of my Treatise on the Lichen Islandicus.

The next species, with respect to frequency, is in consequence of a rupture of a blood vessel in the lungs, technically termed

Phthisis Hæmoptoica,

which often arises from mal-formation, occasioning a disproportion between the capacity of the lungs and that of the chest, so that when the latter exceeds the former, a laceration will be produced by their sudden and great distension, particularly if the blood vessels happen to be in a loaded state from running, or any violent exercise. Such an accident, under such circumstances, would very likely terminate in ulceration, and thus occasion a lingering, but dangerous consumption. If the rupture of the vessel is the effect of plethora, without any such mal-formation, it will sometimes unite, and no mischief ensue. If ulceration should take place,

it is not of that obstinate nature as when attended with a disproportion of parts.

In the cure of this species, the foxglove is the principal agent, and properly administered has always a very happy effect in checking the velocity of the circulation through the lungs, and thus quieting the local irritation, and constitutional sympathy. Ten drops of the saturated tincture should be begun with, three times a day, in a little barley water, (in which some gum arabic may be dissolved) and the dose gradually increased, five drops each day, till it arives to fifty, if it does not nauseate the stomach, or produce giddiness; but if a less dose of this medicine should succeed in reducing the pulse to 70 or 80 pulsations in a minute, no further augmentation will be necessary.

If the pulse should be full, or especially if the patient be of a plethoric habit, the loss of 6 or 8 ounces of blood from the arm will be proper, but this should be practised with caution.

The use of flannel next the skin, a seton, or perpetual blister over the breast bone, distilled water, the different preparations of the Iceland moss, and diet recommended for the cure of the *Scrophulous Consumption of the Lungs*, should, in this case, with the same views, be adopted.

The inhalation of the vapours of burnt pitch, or gum mastic, with a little gum Tolu, is of

service in this species, but hurtful in the scrophulous consumption.

In case of mal-formation of the chest, it will be necessary to prevent the full expansion of the ribs, by a strong laced bandage, made with flannel.

When the violence of the symptoms is abated, and the pulse reduced to 70 or 80 pulsations in a minute, the following mixture may be taken with considerable advantage:

Take of Canada Balsam, two drachms,
Fresh Mucilage of Gum Arabic, one ounce,
Rub them well together in a mortar, and add, by degrees,
Mint Water, six drachms,
Tincture of Foxglove, one drachm,
Syrup of White Poppies, six ounces. Mix.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken three or four times a day.

If the expectoration should be difficult, half an ounce of Oxymel of Squills may be added. Spirit of turpentine is much recommended in this species of pulmonary consumption, by Dr. Hunter, and in some instances I have known it prove very beneficial. The exercise of riding on horseback, in a carriage, swinging, or sailing, as advised for the Scrophulous Consumption, should in this case be adopted in preference to any other.

The next species which comes under consideration, with respect to frequency of occurrence in this country, arises from a consolidated state of the lungs, technically termed

Phthisis ab Ahæsu,

Occasioned by repeated effusions of coagulable lymph, from a kind of indolent, or frequent habitual slight inflammation in the lungs, producing adhesion of their cellular parts, so as to obliterate their cavity, or prevent their due expansion. This species was first noticed by Dr. Bailie, in his popular Morbid Anatomy; and Mr. Abernethy, in his Surgical and Physiological Essays, observes, that in his examination of the lungs of those who died consumptive, he detected this disease so often, as to induce, him to consider it the most common cause of consumption in this country.

The only inconvenience the patient experiences from this disease arises from the difficulty of breathing, (which is often very distressing, particularly after much exertion, ascending a pair of stairs, or after a meal) and violent palpitation of the heart. The expectoration is very trifling, generally clear, frothy, and inodorous. The common symptoms of hectic fever do not come on till within a week or two of the dissolution of the patient. The most active means must, in this case, be employed to

suspend the adhesive progress of the disease, by the external irritation of a perpetual blister over the breast bone, and between the shoulders, or by setons. The loss of blood from the arm, in proportion to the strength of the patient, is indispensible, and flannel next the skin. The determination to the lungs should be checked by the frequent exhibition of ipecacuanha, in the dose of two grains, three times a day; and a costive state of the body obviated by aloetic purges, as the cathartic extract, No. 112, which will answer better than any other aperient medicine in opening the body, and at the same time relieve the lungs, by producing a determination of blood to the intestines.

The cough is seldom troublesome, unless the inflammatory symptoms run high, when the cough mixture, No. 55, may be substituted for the ipecacuanha. An emetic once or twice a week, has generally a desirable effect.

The diet should be the same as directed for the Scrophulous Consumption. The lichen Islandicus, in this case, is of no other use than as an article of diet, and, as such, will not answer so well as the arrow root, or tapioca.

The species technically termed

Phthisis Chlorotica,

on account of being attended with a retention of the menses, I believe always occurs in scro-

phulous habits, and may be considered of the same nature as the Scrophulous Consumption already noticed, which in females, from the age of 14 to 18, is generally the case.

With the methods suggested for the cure of the scrophulous consumption, the extract of madder may likewise be exhibited in the quantity of ten grains, two or three times a day, dissolved in the cough mixture, recommended page 198. The feet may likewise be put every night into warm water, and constantly kept warm by wearing flannel socks. Whether the suppression of this menstrual secretion of the womb be the effect of the disease of the lungs, which is generally the case, or the cause, there can be little doubt but that the disease is much aggravated by it, and that it is of importance to restore this healthy action in the womb, is obvious from the great relief, and sometimes entire suspension, experienced during pregnancy.

The Catarrhal and Asthmatic Consumptions, noticed by nosological writers, are of the same nature as the Scrophulous Consumption, being always attended with tubercles which inflame and suppurate, in consequence of the determination to the lungs in catarrh, and their violent exertions in asthma.

The species termed Phthisis Syphilitica, from a supposition that it is produced by the action of the venereal virus on the lungs, appears to be

the effect of mercury, rather than the venereal disease, and is uniformly aggravated by the exhibition of that medicine. It is of the nature of Phthisis Pituitosa, and will yield to the remedies recommended for the cure of that species. It will, however, frequently happen that the use of mercury, exhibited to cure the venereal disease, will often produce inflammation in tubercles, if they happen to exist in the lungs, and thus act as an exciting cause of the Scrophulous Consumption; which, for its cure, will require the same treatment as recommended for that species.

Other species are enumerated by nosologists, but the diseases from whence they derive the name, are only exciting causes, and without the previous existence of tubercles, could not produce ulceration of the lungs; they may all, therefore, be referred to the head of Scrophulous Consumption.

CONTAGION, to destroy

See Vitriolic Acid, No. 109, page 90, and Acetic Acid, No. 112.

CONTUSIONS. See Bruises.

CONVULSIONS.

There are different species of convulsions, as epilepsy, hysteric fits, lock jaw, which see.

CONVULSIONS IN CHILDREN. See Page 132.

CORNS.

Description.—Are a lamellated hard thickening of the cuticle, generally of the feet, occasioned by pressure of tight shoes, &c.

Treatment.—The callous inorganic substance should be pared off, with a sharp knife, after it has been some time soaked in warm water. The part should then be covered with the plaster, No. 98, or the diachylon plaster, No. 107, to defend them from cold air. The occasional cause should be avoided, by wearing wide shoes. When they are situated at the bottom of the feet, their recurrence may be prevented (after their removal as above directed), by the use of the hair soles, the elasticity of which will obviate the effect of pressure and pain in walking.

Plasters of verdegris, and the red preciputate of mercury, have been much celebrated for the

ing morning; three doses will generally be sufficient for this purpose. Costiveness attendant on a suppression of the menses will be best relieved by the ecphratic pill of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, which will at the same time produce the monthly evacuation. (See Tincture of Myrrh, No. 15.) If attended with pain in the bowels, the operation of these medicines should be promoted by the use of the laxative clyster, No. 86.

After this state of the bowels is removed, its recurrence should be prevented by the use of a greater proportion of vegetable diet, and avoiding the occasional causes.

COUGH,

Is a sudden expulsion of air from the lungs, from the expectoration of irritating matter, or accumulation of phlegm in the air vessels of the lungs.

When a cough occurs in a person of consumptive habit, or born of consumptive parents, or at the consumptive period of life, the existence of tubercles may be suspected in the lungs, and therefore requires more attention than the patient is generally aware of. A blister to the breastbone, the loss of blood from the arm, the occasional use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, the

cough mixture, No. 55, low diet, and the use of flannel next the skin, are all indispensibly necessary. (See Scrophulous Consumption of the Lungs.)

Habitual cough, attended with a secretion of viscid phlegm, difficulty of expectoration, will be relieved by the troches of the squill and benzion, or the following mixture:

Take of Gum Ammoniac Milk, six ounces,
Paregoric Elixir, No. 9, and
Oxymel of Squills, of each one ounce.
Mix.

Two table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day, or the squill pill, No. 47.

Cough is a symptom of pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs, in which case it is attended with fever, and pains in the chest. (See Pleurisy and Inflammation of the Lungs.)

For coughs affecting children from two months and upwards, ipecacuan powder in the dose of two to three grains, every night, affords a safe and effectual remedy. If attended with great difficulty of breathing, a blister or Burgundy pitch plaster should be applied between the shoulders, or over the breast-bone.

It is likewise a symptom of an effusion of water in the chest, when it is attended with general debility of the system; often swelling of the legs, especially towards night, and a sense

of suffocation, when in an horizontal position. (See Dropsy.)

Cough being symptomatic of so many and opposite affections of the lungs, the danger of general cough-medicines (so industriously ad-advertised by designing quacks), must appear obvious. These medicines being nothing more than paregoric elixir, tincture of Tolu, and gum benzion, &c. sold under fictitious names, as the essence or balsam of herbs, &c. once celebarted for their supposed healing powers in diseases of the lungs, are, however, a very serious imposition on the puplic, as by their stimulating properties they have often produced inflammation of tubercles, and thus occasioned consumption. In simple catarrh they will produce pleurisy and inflammation of the lungs, and in those affections they promote suppuration, which end in the death of the unfortunate patient; and even in chronic cough they are often hurtful by checking expectoration. If impositions are cognizable by the laws of the country, surely that species which affects the health and lives of his Majesty's subjects, should not *alone* be suffered by the legislature to be thus practised with impunity.

The lozenges, sold under the names of Tolu, paregoric, and rose, are, from their stimulating ingredients, hurtful in recent coughs; they are

likewise hurtful to the digestive organs, by turning acid in the stomach, and have a very injurious effect on the enamel of the teeth, which in scrophulous or ricketty habits, they either destroy or render black.

Ipecacuanha wine, in the dose of thirty or forty drops, two or three times a day, with a little barley water, is a safe and effectual remedy for coughs, from whatever cause they may arise.

COW POX.

The earliest notice of the cow pox, and its powers in preventing the infection of ihe small pox, has lately been found, by Mr. Steinbeck, to exist in a periodical work, published at Gottingen in the year 1769. It appears the people in that country who had had the cow pox, always flattered themselves that they were by it quite secured against the infection of the small pox. It is remarkable that this circumstance should escape the attention of the physicians of Gottengen, Hanover and Germany. It likewise appears, by a late communication from Ireland, in the Physical and Medical Journal, that the disease has been known in that country from time immemorial, and in the neighbourhood of Cork it has been called *Shinagh*, a term which belongs to the ancient language of the

country, and seems to have been applied to this disease, as far back as oral testimony can be carried. The disorder is familiar in most counties in England; in Gloucestershire in particular, it was well known that those who had received the cow pox, was thereby rendered secure against the small pox; which attracted the attention of Dr. Jenner, then resident at Berkley, in that county, who, in the year 1798, published many curious and interesting facts respecting it; the most important of which is, *That persons affected with the cow pox, are thereby rendered incapable of receiving the infection of the small pox.* This fact has since been satisfactorily proved, in upwards of fifty thousand persons, who, after being *constitutionally* infected by the cow pox, were rendered secure against the action of the small pox infection; but whether permanently so, time only can determine. Dr. Jenner has the merit of first communicating this disease by innoculation, and had the small pox never been propagated in the same manner, probably the advantage of the cow pox would have remained still dormant. The great advantages of this disease over the small pox, are,

1st. Its uniform mildness, that out of two thousand inoculated with the cow pox, not one died, and therefore may be practised at all ages with safety.

2dly. That it is not communicable by effluvia, and therefore any part of the family may be infected, without affecting the rest.

3dly. It does not disfigure the skin.

4thly. Requiring no medical attendance, it may be practised by any intelligent person.

The Rev. Mr. Holt has laudably set the example for the Resident Clergy, by the inoculation of upward of three hundred persons, as appears by his report in the Medical Journal.

The matter * for this purpose should be taken in an early state of the pustule, generally about the fourth, fifth, or sixth day after the inoculation, by just pricking the skin of the pustule with a lancet, and collecting thereon the clear limpid matter that exudes, with which the arm of the person to be infected should be scratched, before it be dry, so as just to draw blood. On the fourth day the part will appear a little red and prominent, which will keep increasing to about the ninth or tenth day, when the constitution will become infected, from an absorption of the matter, with a slight affection of fever, and a little enlargement of the glands in the pit of the arm inoculated. The part should be defended from the friction of the

* This matter is sent between small pieces of glass, free of expence, to any part of the kingdom, on application to Dr. Walker, at the Cow Pox Institution, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street.

linen, by applying a little gold-beaters' skin, and if the surrounding inflammation should run high, the application of the lotion of Goulard's extract (see No. 49.) will be proper.

Care should be taken that the matter be collected from a *genuine cow pox pustule*, and before it begins to scab, or becomes opake and thick, and that after inoculation the system be affected, otherwise the person will be liable to the small pox.

From inattention to these particulars, it is very probable the reports of the small pox having succeeded the cow pox inoculation have arisen; for unless the matter be genuine, and the constitution be infected, the person of course will not be secured against the infection of the small pox contagion. It may happen that the inflammation, excited by the inoculation with genuine cow pox matter, may remain local, i. e. the inflammation may go on to form a fine pustule, without any portion of the matter being taken up into the system, when, of course, the subject will still be liable to small pox infection. This will often happen with the small pox, a case of which I have now under my care:—A young woman that was inoculated with the small pox matter, four years since, the pustule on the arm regularly proceeded to suppuration, but no portion of matter was absorbed to infect the system.

The principal advantage to be derived from the introduction of this disease among the human species is, that by its general adoption the small pox may be so entirely extirpated, as even to render the inoculation with the cow pox matter unnecessary; and if it is not attended with this effect, I conceive the discovery has been much over-rated; for, it must be allowed that the local inflammation excited by the inoculation with this matter is of a very unfavourable nature, and often ends in deep sloughing, which frequently produces such an adhesion of the muscles of the arm, as very much to confine its motions; and some instances have occurred of the mortification spreading, so as to destroy the life of the child. A case of this kind happened a few weeks since in St. George's Fields. The child was inoculated at the Cow pox Institution, Salisbury-square, Fleet-street; the inflammation of the arm spread very extensively; on the sixth day mortification ensued, which proved fatal to the child. Independent of this local affection, a very unpleasant eruption of the skin, about a fortnight or three weeks after inoculation is frequently the consequence of this disease, resembling the itch, which has given great dissatisfaction to the parents, and certainly proves that it has a greater effect on the constitution than is generally imagined.

Since the last edition of this work appeared,

several cases have been published, by medical gentlemen, of children having taken the small pox, after being *infected* by the cow pox.

Mr. Willam Goldson, a very respectable surgeon at Portsea, has lately laid many interesting cases of this kind before the public, of which the two following appear to be most deserving of notice, I insert without any comment:

"A child of Mr. Callard, Ordnance Row, Portsea, a strong healthy boy, eight months old, was vaccinated on the 10th of December, 1800, the same day as the subject of Case 2, and consequently with the same matter. The disease was peculiarly marked—by the pustule—by the constitutional affection, which continued two or three days—and by the eschar. This is at present strongly indented, and as far as can be carried in my mind, without comparing it, strictly similar to that of Case 1. Constantly in the way of infection, by being in a school where several had been taken with the small pox, he could not have escaped it, had he then been susceptible of it.

On the 21st ult. I inoculated an infant in the same house, who had not more than twenty small pox, half of which did not maturate. On Wednesday the 11th instant, and the following day, the vaccinated child was observed to be

dull and inactive, complained of pain in his head, and was feverish. On Friday morning the feverish heat continued, and some eruptions in the face, hands and body, were seen, characteristic of the small pox. Three or four more appeared during Saturday night, and as many on Sunday. They were mostly small, but prominent, and all of them, about twenty in number, went off on the sixth or seventh day; none of them maturing, but some exuded a small portion of lymph, which incrusted on the apex, and gave them a warty aspect. This was soon rubbed off, leaving them less elevated above the skin.

Mr. Weymouth and Mr. Merritt, two of the medical gentlemen who were witnesses of the former cases, being in the vicinity on Friday, saw the child with me, both of whom have visited him since, and are fully satisfied of its being the effect of variolous (small pox) contagion.

The daughter, a younger child, exposed in as great a degree to the same infection, wholly resisted it. She was vaccinated on the 9th of April 1803.

I inoculated two children of Mr. Warner, in Prince George's-street, Portsea, on the same day that I did Mr. Callard's. This was another opportunity to try the effect of exposure to infection in a boy vaccinated at four months old,

on the 19th of April, 1801. The disease was marked by considerable tumor in the axilla, (arm pit) and was in every respect so compleatly defined, as to leave no doubt of its efficacy. Near two years afterwards, a child in the same house had the casual small pox, when it was exposed with the fullest confidence, as much as possible, but resisted infection.

On Monday the 9th instant, the child complained of being tired, was very fretful, and rather feverish; was sick on Tuesday evening, and vomited; and on Wedneshay morning four or five eruptions appeared. On Thursday his tongue was white, and he was still rather feverish; a few fresh eruptions were seen. On Friday he was more feverish, and less inclined to his usual activity; the eruptions increasing in size, particularly those on the face, and one on the pubis. A few others still came out on Saturday; and I could now distinctly see twenty-five in different parts of the face, body, and extremities.

On Monday the 16th, the eruption on the pubis had a whitish glassy appearance, as if it contained a fluid, but it never became perfectly pustular. Similar to the other case, the apex of most of them exuded a small quantity of lymph, which incrusted, and they gradually died away after the seventh day, but the marks are still visible, rather above the skin.

Mr. Seeds, Mr. Weymouth, and Mr. Merritt saw this child at different times, and they entertain no doubt of the nature of the disease.

These, in themselves, are not prominent cases, but they certainly lead to the same conclusion as the others—that a person, at one time secured by vaccination, may, at another more distant, become susceptible of small pox."

CRAMP IN THE STOMACH

Is generally produced by flatulency, and often precedes or attends a fit of the gout. When the effect of indigestion, it may be relieved by a small tea-spoonful of sal volatile, No. 11, in a glass of mint water, and a return prevented by the use of the stomach mixture, No. 50; but if the subject be of a gouty habit, a tea-spoonful of ether, No. 12, in a little cold brandy and water, with the gout mixture, No. 58, will answer best. The farina of the true Jamaica ginger has been found to answer in those cases, by several eminent practitioners, better than any other stimulus. (See Gout and Indigestion.) When the pain is very violent, a full dose of laudanum will be necessary. (See Nos. 18, and 19.)

CUTANEOUS FOULNESS. See Eruptions of the Skin.

CUTS.

The edges of cuts should be brought in contact with strips of diachylon plaster, No. 107, spread on leather, or court plaster, No. 44, and kept in that situation by means of a bandage. If inflammation should come on, the use of the lotion, No. 49, and aperient mixture, No. 51, will be proper. Friar's balsam, so frequently employed for healing cuts, prevents their uniting, by its decomposition in mixing with the blood; the stimulating gums of which it is made, uniformly produce much mischief, by exciting inflammation, and consequent suppuration. It should therefore *never* be employed, however trifling the accident, as by its irritating quality it may be productive of a very serious affection in an irritable subject. (See Lock Jaw.)

DEAFNESS.

When it is occasioned by an accumulation of wax, the ears should be syringed every morning with warm soap and water till it be removed, and a little wool or cotton worn in them, moistened with two or three drops of camphorated oil of almonds. When it arises from a decay of the nerve, electric sparks, and a blister be-

hind the ear, will afford relief. When ulceration is the cause, which is known by a discharge of matter, the ulcer should be healed as soon as possible, by syringing the ear every morning and evening, with the following lotion, made a little warm:

Take of Tincture of Myrrh, one drachm,
Egyptian Honey, two drachms,
Pure Water, eight ounces. Mix.

If it arises from obstructions in the eustachian tube, preventing the passage of air into the internal ear, the tube should be syringed with warm soap and water. When the cavity of this tube is obliterated by disease, Mr. Ashley Cooper has ingeniously proposed to admit air into the internal cavity, by puncturing the *membrana tympani*, which he has practised very successfully. This operation is very simple, and attended with no pain.

Although deafness arises from so many different causes, empirics are bold enough to recommend their nostrums as a remedy for every species, which, if good for one, must necessarily be injurious to another. They should consider that the ear is a tender organ, and requires very delicate management, and that by the employment of their medicines, in a case requiring a different treatment, this important sense may be destroyed entirely.

DEBILITY OR WEAKNESS.

When weakness is the sequel of fever, or any other disease, or the consequence of fatigue, the tonic mixture, No. 66, with a generous diet, will prove the best restorative medicine. If attended with profuse nocturnal perspiration, eight drops of elixir of vitriol, No. 16, may be taken with each dose of the tonic mixture.

Debility of the system is often symptomatic of very opposite diseases; thus it is attendant both on putrid and inflammatory fevers. Local debility is often the effect of pressure on the nerves; thus weakness of the lower extremities is produced by disease in the back-bone. The cure, in such cases, of course will depend on the removal of the primary affections.

DIABETES,

Definition, &c.—Is a considerable increase of urine, equal, and sometimes exceeding the quantity of liquors drank; often of a sweetish taste like honey, and an odour approaching to that of violets, attended with great and constant thirst. The skin unusually dry and somewhat scaly, the pulse quick and weak, with a gradual emaciation of the body, while the muscular

power is little affected. The urine, on examination, seems to be entirely destitute of animal matter, and, on evaporation, yields a quantity of a kind of sugar, similar to that of the sugar cane, in the proportion of one-eighth.

Causes.—Debility, or whatever may occasion it, spasms, obstructed perspiration, are enumerated as the causes of this disease. The kidneys, on dissection, are generally found enlarged and flaccid.

Treatment.—From the urine possessing only vegetable properties, Dr. Rollo has ingeniously proposed to cure this disease, by an entire abstinence from vegetable food, and supports his opinion by many well-attested facts. This plan, however, has not so well succeeded in the practice of Dr. Lubbock, of Norwich, who found, notwithstanding a strict adherence to animal food, that no alteration was produced in the quantity or quality of the urine.

Dr. Gilby, physician to the General Hospital, near Birmingham, relates several cases in the Medical and Physical Journal, that were cured by the nitric acid, in the following proportion:

Take of Nitric Acid, a drachm and half,
Barley Water, half a pint,
Simple Syrup, two ounces. Mix.

Four large table-spoonfuls, to be taken with the same quantity of water, three times a day.

Mr. Chavasse, surgeon, in Walsal, has found this medicine to answer in one bad case of the disease. Dr. Dobson, of Liverpool, who has paid much attention to the complaint, recommends the use of strengthening medicines, as the bark; and Dr. Schutz much extols lime water as a remedy.

The most rational system to be pursued for the treatment of this disease, seems to be, to check the determination to the kidneys, by restoring the sensible and insensible perspiration, by warm bathing, the use of flannel next the skin, and the following draught at bed time:

Take of Ipecacuanha powder, No. 23, five grains,
Laudanum, No. 18, six drops,
Peppermint Water, two ounces.—Mix.

The tonic mixture, No. 66, may likewise be taken, with a view of giving tone to the constitution. The diet should be entirely animal food, and the beverage weak lime water, or distilled water, with a little brandy. If these means should fail, the nitric acid mixture, recommended by Dr. Gilby, may be substituted for the tonic mixture and lime water.

The use of distilled water, as common drink, and in every article of diet, by producing a change of constitution, is a very important remedy in the treatment of this disease.

DIGESTION, BAD, See Indigestion.

DIARRHŒA.

Description, Causes, &c.—Consists in a too frequent and copious discharge of the contents of the intestines, by stool, from preternatural irritation of the intestines, occasioned by acidity or purtrescency of aliment, the undue use of purgative medicines, obstructed perspiration, and a translation of morbid matter of other diseases to the bowels. When the patient's strength is but little affected by the discharge, it may generally be considered as salutary, and by avoiding much vegetable food and taking broth, thickened with arrow root or rice, it will gradually subside.

Treatment.—When, from its debilitating effects, it is judged necessary to check the disease, the cure should be begun by a gentle emetic of ipecacuanha, No. 23, and afterwards fifteen grains of rhubarb powder, No. 35, in a little cinnamon water, No. 20, to remove the irritating matter lodged in the stomach and in-

testines. The cure may be afterwards completed by the use of the cretaceous mixture, No. 53, and the occasional use of the clyster, No. 85. If the skin be dry, three grains of ipecacuanha, No. 23, with five drops of laudanum, No. 18, should be taken at bed-time, in a little cinnamon water, No. 20. After the complaint is checked, the tone of the stomach and intestines may be restored, by taking the decoction of the Iceland liverwort, as directed page 102, or a tea-spoonful of the tincture of Angustura bark, three times a day, in a little water.

When the discharge resembles chyle, from the food passing through the bowels not properly digested, it is termed *Cœliac Passion*; which requires a similar mode of treatment.

The animal and vegetable jelly, recommended under the head of Arrow Root, No. 103, will afford the best diet. Port wine, so frequently given for these affections, by turning sour, is often very hurtful. People subject to this complaint, will receive great benefit by wearing flannel next the skin.

DROPSY.

Description, Causes, &c.—Is a preternatural collection of the serous or watery portion of the blood, in different parts of the body, through weakness, in consequence of excessive

drinking, poor diet, loss of blood, &c, which, by relaxing the exhalent vessels, an increased quantity of serum escapes, and, at the same time, by diminishing the action of the absorbents, an accumulation is rapidly produced. It may likewise be occasioned by whatever increases the effusion from the *exhalent* vessels, or diminishes the action of the *absorbents*. Local dropsy is frequently produced by enlargements and indurations in the body, mechanically interrupting the free return of blood to the heart; thus an impregnated womb, by compressing the large veins that convey the blood from the lower extremities, often occasions *dropsical swellings of the legs*. Induration and enlargement of the liver, in the same manner, will produce *dropsy of the belly*, and a polypus in the right ventricle, or ossification of the valves of the heart, an effusion of serum, or watery fluid in the chest.

Dropsy is distinguished according to its situation: When it occupies the cellular membrane, immediately under the skin, it is termed *Anasarca*; when in the cavity of the belly, *Ascites*; and in the chest, *Hydrothorax*; but the whole of such collections fall under the general denomination of Dropsy; and when produced by debility, require the same method of treatment. The symptoms of Anasarca are, a uni-

form pale, and often shining distension of the skin, generally of the legs, at first soft, and readily receiving the pressure of the finger, The swelling, by an horizontal position, is much diminished, and the face becomes a little swelled. It gradually extends itself upwards, till it occupies the thigh and trunk of the body, and sometimes even the head, attended with scarcity of urine, always high coloured. When it occupies the *belly*, the enlargement begins at the bottom, and gradually increases upwards, attended with a sense of weight, and an evident fluctuation of a fluid, on a sudden motion of the body. As it increases, the breathing becomes difficult, and the legs affected with dropsical swellings. When the *cavity of the chest* is the seat of the disease, there is always, more or less, a sense of anxiety about the heart, or lower part of the breast-bone, a difficulty of breathing, which is increased by lying down, a dry cough, palpitation of the heart, paleness of the face, and when far advanced, the legs become affected with dropsical swellings; a fluctuation of water is likewise perceived by the patient on any sudden motion of the body.

TREATMENT.—The evacuation of the collected water, and restoration of the tone of the system, are the only objects to accomplish in

the cure of this disease, when the cause is merely weakness. The first should always be attempted by internal medicines, in preference to surgical operations or blisters. For this purpose the bowels should be emptied by a full dose of the basilic powder, No. 29, and the following day the diuretic pills for dropsy, No. 69, with a wine-glassful of the tonic mixture, No. 66, three or four times a day. The basilic powder should be repeated occasionally, or if the water be seated in the chest or belly, the following may be substituted with great advantage:

Take of Powder of Foxglove, two grains,
Aromatic Species, five grains.

To be taken two or three times a week, in a little spirit of juniper, commonly called Hollands, diluted with water; a table-spoonful of steel wine may likewise advantageously be added, in all cases, to every dose of the tonic mixture.

In case the legs are affected, they should be well-rubbed with a flesh-brush, or camphorated oil, and supported by a flannel roller; electric sparks will prove useful, by stimulating the absorbent vessels. The diet should be chiefly animal food, and the common drink spirit of juniper, or brandy diluted, and port wine.

If the collection of watery fluid is not evidently diminished, after due perseverance in

these means, if situated in the cavity of the belly, it should be drawn off by an expert surgeon; and if in the extremities, by blistering and scarifications, at the same time continuing the use of the tonic mixture.

Riding, either on horseback or in a carriage, or walking, are particularly serviceable, in promoting the action of the absorbent vessels.

Dropsical swellings of the legs, attendant on pregnancy, may be relieved by flannel rollers, friction, and keeping the legs supported on a sofa or stool, and avoiding costiveness, by taking a gentle dose of rhubard powder occasionally.

DYSENTERY.

Is likewise called *Bloody Flux*, because blood sometimes appears in the stools. It generally occurs in summer and autumn, at the same time with autumnal intermittent and remittent fevers, with which it is often complicated.

Description.—Frequent evacuations of slime or mucus from the intestines, often mixed with blood, and when attended with the natural fæces, they are generally in a compact and hardened form; the motions frequently small, accompanied with very severe griping, and fol-

lowed by tenesmus. With these symptoms there is a loss of appetite, sickness, and vomiting, and the patient sooner or later is affected with a fever, sometimes inflammatory, and very often of a putrid kind. This disease is more frequent in warm than in cooler climates, and, from its infectious nature, is often epidemic, in camps and other places.

Causes.—Putrid air and aliment; fruit, and the too frequent use of fermented liquors; the action of strong cathartic medicines, and whatever increases the natural irritability of the intestines, as obstructed perspiration, are the causes of this disease.

Treatment.—The cure of dysentery should be attempted by removing the irritating matter in the stomach and intestines, by the emetic powder, No. 77, and the aperient mixture, No. 51, after their operation, in order to allay the increased irritability of the intestines, and to produce a determination of perspirable matter to the skin, three grains of ipecacuanha, No. 23, with ten drops of laudanum, No. 18, should be given every three hours. The anodyne clyster should, for the same purpose, be administered twice or thrice a day. Bleeding is only proper when the pulse is hard, full, and strong; or when inflammation of the intestines is sus-

pected; in other cases the loss of blood will prove detrimental. Dr. Cullen condemns the use of rhubarb in this disease. If the pain in the bowels is violent, the warm bath and blister to the abdomen will be necessary. The diet should be chiefly vegetable jellies, as that of arrow root, No. 103, sago, tapioca, veal broth, &c. &c.

After the disease is cured, the essential salt of bark should be taken, (see No. 24, or Mixture, No. 66.) to restore the tone of the stomach and bowels; and if it be complicated with intermittent fever, the salt of bark should be employed in the earlier stages of the disease.

Dr. Cheston, of Gloucester, notices a case of a very obstinate and alarming affection of the bowels, in a young lady, that was effectually cured by a decoction of the Lichen Islandicus, or Iceland moss.

EPILEPSY.

From the patient suddenly falling to the ground on an attack of this disease, it has been called *Falling Sickness*; and from its affecting the mind, (being the most noble part of the rational creature,) it was termed, by the ancients, *The Sacred Disease.*

Description.—An involuntary, violent con-

vulsive contraction of the greater part of the muscles of voluntary motion, particularly of the extremities, the eyes, tongue, lower jaw, and bladder, attended with loss of sensation, and ending in a state of insensibility, and seeming sleep. When the patient recovers, he complains of torpor, heaviness of the head, and general lassitude. The fit often attacks suddenly, but for the most part is preceded by a pain in the head, lassitude, dimness of the eyes, and a kind of tremulous sensation, beginning in the lower extremities, often in the great toe, and ascending to the head.

CAUSE.—The dissection of epileptic persons has shewn a variety of morbid appearances, as indurations in the brain or membranes, caries or preternatural projections of the processes of the internal surface of the skull bone, pressing and irritating the brain; collections of serum, or purulent matter, and earthy concretions within the skull—while others, who have died of epilepsy, have exhibited no such appearances. An aneurism in the head may, and I believe is often the cause of this disease, by the pressure and irritation, produced from distention, which often ends in fatal apoplexy or palsy, from the rupture of the aneurismal sack, a termination noticed by all medical writers on the disease. They are likewise produced by the irritation of

worms in the stomach or intestines, particularly the tape worm.

TREATMENT.—A great variety of specifics for this disease have been recommended from the time of Galen, to the present period, but all of them have failed of either curing or modifying the disease. The *nitrate of silver** has lately been much celebrated as a remedy by Dr. Cappe, of York; Dr. Sims, and Dr. Bostock; which, unfortunately, has not been confirmed by further experience Dr. Magennis, and Dr. Kinglake, having published several cases, in which it proved of no advantage. When worms are suspected to be the cause, the basilic powder, No. 29, or the electuary, No. 75, with the use of lime water, No. 104, and tonic mixture, No. 66, will prove sufficient for their expulsion. When the cause cannot be ascertained, Valerian tea, with sal volatile may be tried, or the following pills:

* When first this preparation was recommended as a specific in this disease, Dr. Cheston was induced to give it a trial at the Gloucester infirmary. The first case that occurred, was a young man that had been subject to them twice a day, for many years. After the exhibition of two or three doses, the fits suddenly left him, and he was shortly after disharged cured. He soon experienced a relapse, for which he was re-admitted, and the same medicine administered without evincing any effect whatever.

Take of Nitrate of Silver, one scruple,
Extract of White Poppies, two scruples. Mix well, and form into 24 pills.

One to be taken twice a day.

If these fail, the following are worth a trial:

Take of Vitriolated Zinc, half a drachm,
Essential Salt of Bark, one drachm.
Mix, and divide into twenty pills.

One to be taken twice a day, with a draught of Valerian tea.

The following is much recommended by Dr. Hugh Smith:

Take of Russia Castor, one scruple,
Oil of Harsthorn, six drops,
The confection called Paulina, ten grains. Mix, for a bolus.

To be taken every six hours.

The herb cardamine, or ladies smock, has been prescribed with advantage, and may be taken, to the extent of a drachm, three or four times a day.

Mr. Hodgson, of Bishopwermouth, has published a case of a young girl, about eight years of age, that was cured by electricity. A young lady was cured by citizen Portal, that was every day attacked by an apoplectic fit, which began in one of her toes; this circumstance suggested to that able anatomist the idea of cuting the nerve, for the purpose of interrupting the com-

munication with the brain, but he began by the application of opium to the nerve, and that alone proved sufficient to effect a complete cure.

The good effects of calcined zinc, have been attested by Dr. Haygarth, of Chester; Dr. White of York; and Mr. Bell, of Edinburgh.

The following prescriptions for the exhibition of this medicine, is given by that able practitioner, Dr. Saunders:

Take of Calcined Zinc, eight grains,
Conserve of Roses, sufficient to form a bolus.

To be taken twice a day.

As there is incontrovertible evidence that these medicines have succeeded in certain cases, they are all deserving of a fair trial, particularly in the treatment of a disease, in which no plausible remedy should be left untried.

If the cause be worms, which may be known by an offensive breath, and irregular appetite, the remedies recommended for the expulsion of the tape worm must be employed.

In case the patient should complain much of pains in the head, a seton in the nape of the neck should not be neglected, and the feet kept warm by the use of flannel socks.

The diet should be nutritious, but not stimulating. Distilled water should be used for the common beverage, and in every article of diet that requires water it should be employed; this

article, although simple in itself, may, by producing an alteration in the syrtem, prove of more real and permanent advantage than the most potent medicines.

ERYSIPELAS. See St. Anthony's Fire.

ERUPTIONS OF THE SKIN.

Under this head I shall include the treatment of those chronic eruptions of the skin, generally, but improperly termed *Scorbutic.* When pimples, or pustules in the face are the consequence of high living, or excessive drinking, the best medicine is the aperient sulphuric water, or neutral salts, No. 2.

The scaly affections of the skin, or clusters of small pimples, unattended with fever, will generally yield to the medicines recommended under the head of antimony wine, (see Nos. 14, 27, 28,) with the topical application of the ointment, No. 95.

Diseases of the skin are very numerous, and many of them were very obscurely understood, till the late valuable publication by Dr. Willan, who has devoted much time to their investigation.

When they arise from a constitutional cause, they should be considered salutary, and treated

only by internal remedies. External applications should never be employed, unless recommended by a medical practitioner, as by their imprudent use, (particularly quack remedies, which are chiefly composed of mercury) many lives are destroyed, by repelling the morbific matter to the brain, lungs, or bowels.

For those chronic inflammations of the skin, appearing in patches over the body in the spring and autumn (generally termed leprosy, and by some scurvy) the following medicines I have never kno vn to fail in the most obstinate cases:

Take of Precipitated Sulphur of Antimony, one drachm,
Prepared Calomel, fifteen grains,
Conserve of Hips, sufficient to form a mass. To be divided into thirty pills.

One to be taken twice a day with a draught of decoction of the inner rind of elm bark, (see No. 14,) or sassafras wood, or sarsaparilla. After taking the pills four days, a little of the following ointment should be rubbed over the parts affected, every night:

Take of Ointment of Nitrated Quick Silver,
Spermaceti Ointment, of each equal parts.

To be mixed in a glass mortar, or with an ivory spatula, as metals will decompose the ointment, and destroy its effects.

The use of distilled water will prove of the greatest advantage in correcting the saline state of the blood; it should not only constitute the principal beverage of the patient, but his tea, soups, &c. should be made with it.

EXCORIATIONS,

Arising from friction, may be easily cured by applying the spermaceti ointment, No. 46, or the discutient lotion, No. 91. In cases of much inflammation, the emolient poultice, No. 101, will be more proper; and if attended with fever, the aperient mixture, No. 51, and the saline mixture, No. 67, will also be necessary, and small doses of laudanum, No. 18, after the operation of the opening medicine, in case of much pain. A low diet in the latter case should be observed.

EYE. Inflammation of

Description.—Pain, redness, and swelling of the eye-ball, or its membranes, rendering it incapable to bear the impression of light, and generally attended with a discharge of hot acrid tears.

Cause.—External injury, excessive light, minute examination, repeated intoxication, in-

tense heat, and obstructed perspiration, are the most frequent causes of this disease.

TREATMENT.—The repeated application of leeches to the eye-lids or temples, blisters to the nape of the neck, the occasional use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, the constant application of the eye-water, No. 89, by means of folds of fine old linen, the saline mixture, No. 67, a dark room, and low diet, are all indispensibly necessary, and should be speedily employed, to prevent the formation of specks, adhesions, and opacity of the membranes, or suppuration in the ball of the eye. If the inflammation should continue obstinate, the blister should be kept open, by dressing it with the savin ointment, No. 48, and the aperient mixture, application of leeches, &c. repeated. When the disease occurs periodically, or in a scrophulous habit, the mixture, No. 64, should be substituted for the saline mixture, after due evacuations, by the means suggested. Two drops of laudanum, dropped in the eye at bed time, or twice a day, will often succeed in speedily dispersing inflammation in the eye, after the operation of the aperient medicine, &c. The electric aura applied to the eye, is much recommended by Dr. Campbell, of Stafford; and certainly has been very successfuly employed at the Hereford infirmary, by the directions of Mr. Samuel

Cam, a surgeon of celebrity in that city. If it arises from venereal taint, the internal use of mercury will be absolutely necessary.

A low diet should be particularly observed, such as gruel, bread, puddings, and light broths, &c..

Chronic inflammations of the edges of the eye-lids, which generally occur in scrophulous habits, require the use of alterative medicines. In the following I have never been diappointed:

Take of Æthiop's Mineral,
Burnt Sponge, of each half an ounce,
Frecipitated Sulphur of Antimony, two scruples,
Honey, one ounce. Mix well together.

A tea-spoonful to be taken every night and morning, with a draught of sassafras tea, made with distilled water.

A little of the following ointment must be applied every night and morning in each corner of the eyes:

Take of Ointment of the Nitrated Quicksilver, two drachms,
Spermaceti Ointment, four drachms. Mix in a glass mortar.

If the inflammation should extend to the ball of the eye, an issue in the neck or arm will be of considerable advantage.

After the disease is cured, or considerably

abated, the use of the mixture, No. 64, as there specified, will prevent a relapse. The general use of distilled water as the common beverage, is of great importance in this disease, by correcting the state of the constitution.

The diet need not be particularly low in this case, as in the preceding. It will only be necessary that the patient should avoid much animal food and spirituous liquors.

FAINTING.

Description.—Begins with great anxiety about the heart, the pulse and respiration become suddenly weak, and sometimes to such a degree, as to all appearance wholly to cease, with coldness of the extremities, and death-like paleness of the face, &c.

Cause.—These fits are most commonly occasioned by excessive evacuations, particularly of blood; they are likewise produced by passions of the mind, violent pain, impediments to the free circulation of blood, as polypus, aneurising of the aorta, and, as I observed when treating of the inward fits of children, (see note, page 135) by the communication between the auricles of the heart remaining entire.

Treatment.—When the fit is in consequence

of excessive evacuations, the body should be immediately placed in an horizontal position, in a current air, and the acetic acid, No. 111, or sal volatile, applied to the nostrils and temples, and a tea-spoonful of the latter, given in a little cold water; the extremities should be rubbed with warm flannels, and cold water sprinkled over the face and neck. The patient should afterwards be supported with a nourishing diet, as beef tea, or arrow root, with a little wine. When it arises from pain, the patient should take (after recovery from the fit by the above means) twenty or thirty drops of laudanum, to be increased, or diminished, and repeated, according to the degree of pain. If the consequence of passions of the mind, and the patient be plethoric, the loss of blood from the arm should not be deferred. If from debility, the tonic mixture, No. 66, should be taken; and if from obstruction of the circulation, from polypus, &c. much bodily exertion, or whatever tends to hurry on the circulation should be avoided.

FALLING SICKNESS. See Epilepsy.

FEVER INFLAMMATORY. See Inflammatory Fever.

FEVER INTERMITTENT. See Intermittent Fever.

FILMS OR SPECKS ON THE EYE.

To remove slight films, or small specks on the eyes, the eye water, No. 90, dropped into them two or three times a day, will generally succeed; if attended with inflammation, the application of a blister to the nape of the neck; the use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, and an alterative bolus of three grains of calomel, No. 27, every night for a week, will likewise be necessary.

If the eye water should not prove sufficiently strong, a little levegated glass, or powdered scuttle-fish bone, should also be blown into the eyes through a quill, every night or morning, or applied mixed with a little honey, by means of a camel hair pencil.

FLATULENCY,

Is the effect of indigestion, which see.

FLUOR ALBUS. See Whites.

GLEET. See Venereal Disease.

GONORRHŒA. See Venereal Disease.

GOUT.

The gout is generally allowed to be an * hereditary disease, but more often acquired by high living and a sedentary life. Dr. Cullen considers a fit of the gout only as an effort of nature, to restore tone and vigour to the nerves, which she accomplishes by exciting inflammation in their extremities, and which, after subsisting some days, gradually leaves the patient in an improved state of health; and this idea the Doctor supports with a long train of ingenious arguments.

Gout is divided into Regular and Irregular. When the inflammation appears in the joints to a due degree, and gradually disappears, after a certain duration, leaving the patient rather in an improved state of health than otherwise, it is termed Regular.

Of the Irregular there are three species, viz.

1st, Atonic—When the constitution is tainted with the gout, but from some cause, the inflammatory affection of the joints is not produced; the organs of digestion impaired, and the general health variously affected.

* Dr. Latham, in a late epistolary dissertation addressed to a physician in London, denies that it is ever transmitted from parents to their offspring.

2d, Retrocedent—When the inflammation attacks the joints slightly, and suddenly abates and affects an internal part. And

3dly, Misplaced—When the gout attacks any of the internal parts, instead of the joints of the extremities.

REGULAR GOUT.

DESCRIPTION.—A regular fit of the gout rarely comes on till the age of thirty-five, unless from a strong hereditary predisposition. It attacks sometimes suddenly, but generally preceded by derangements in the constitution, as indigestion, flatulency, loss of appetite, cramp in the stomach and calves of the legs, head-ach, stupor, numbness, a sense of pricking in the thighs and legs; the day preceding the attack, the appetite generally returns much keener than usual. It comes on sometimes in the evening, but generally about two or three o'clock in the morning, and for the most part in the Spring of the year. The ball of the foot, or joint of the great toe, is commonly the seat of regular gout, the pain and inflammation of which uniformly increases, with more or less of a shivering, which abates as the pain becomes more violent, and is succeeded by a hot stage of the same duration as the pain, and with it gradually

declines, when a gentle perspiration comes on, and the patient falls into a much desired sleep.

TREATMENT.—On the approach of the fit, and until its departure, the strength of the patient should be supported; but so various are the constitutions of gouty people, that it is impossible to lay down a general or invariable plan for this purpose. The vigour of the stomach should be kept up by such medicines that will not at the same time increase the feverish state of the constitution. The Jamaica ginger affords a purer, and as effectual a stimulus for this purpose, as can be introduced into the stomach, and at the same time is exempt from the heating effects of the spices, whose stimulating properties reside in an essential oil, and from the narcotic effects of ardent spirits. This medicine has lately been much prescribed for the gout, by Dr. Vaughan, and other eminent practitioners; and Sir Joseph Banks, from the good effects he has experienced from its use, has much recommended it. A tea-spoonful of the true powder, free from the exterior bark, and fibres of the root, should be taken three times a day, in the common beverage, to be increased or diminished in proportion to the relaxation of the stomach, &c. (See Jamaica Ginger, page 104.) The gout mixture, No. 58, should likewise be taken, according to the directions there speci-

fied, which will both invigorate and keep the body gently laxative. The volatile tincture of cascarilla, taken to the extent of a dessert-spoonful in a glass of ginger tea, twice or thrice a day, has proved an admirable remedy in recovering the tone of the stomach, and shortening the fit. When a purgative is necessary, equal parts of rhubarb and of senna will answer best. With respect to topical applications, there has been a great diversity of opinions. Fleecy hosiery, electric sparks, and friction with flannel, are both safe and serviceable.

The diet should be generous, and exercise, although painful, should be freely taken. The mephitic alkaline water, (see Salt of Wormwood, No. 21,) has been much recommended for a common beverage, and in those cases attended with gravel it will certainly prove beneficial. If it should be too cold for the stomach, or flatulent, a little good brandy, or spirit of juniper may be added.

To allay the pain of a violent paroxysm, the acetous laudanum may be taken in the dose of forty drops and upwards. This preparation is exempt from the baneful effects of the common liquid laudanum, and its exhibition has never failed to be attended with the most happy effects in assuaging the pain, shortening the fit, and recovering the patient. I have known a person, after being confined to his bed for seve-

ral days with a most severe attack of the gout, after taking two doses of this medicine was able to walk about his room.

A reverend empiric has lately attributed this disease to a vitiated state of the bile, and proposes to cure it by his *Antibilious Pills*, for which, it appears, the legislature has granted him a patent, an account of which is given page 163 *. The operation of such drastic purges may, by reducing the powers of the system, procrastinate a fit, but on the next return, nature may be so weakened as not to be able to produce a regular fit, and instead of affecting the extremities, it will fall on the stomach or lungs, and carry off the patient; this is uniformly the effect of debilitating medicines. (See Retro-

* Of all the impositions practised in an enlightened country, that of the Metallic Tractorism, as it is termed, is the most impudent. The strange infatuation of the wealthy to pay five guineas for two small pieces of compound metals, not intrinsically worth sixpence, to *charm away disease* will no doubt be noticed by posterity as a proof of the ignorance and credulity of the age; and it is to be hoped the names of those who have sanctioned the practice will not be omitted in the records. A gentleman in the neighbourhood of Covent Garden, in a violent fit of the gout, was induced to give Tractorism a trial. A tractor was accordingly applied to the inflamed foot; but instead of *drawing out* the disease, as he expected, the cold metal repelled it to the knee and stomach, and had it not been for the timely assistance of medicine, the experiment would certainly have cost him his life.

cedent Gout.) Experience has most satisfactorily proved, that the gout is not to be cured by *medicine*; and it is a fact, noticed so far back as the time of Galen, that when a fit of the gout has been kept off for two or three years by the use of tonic medicines, as the Peruvian bark, or bitters, the person has always died suddenly for want of a regular fit of the gout. If the opinion of that celebrated physician, Dr. Cullen, is right, a fit of the gout should be considered of the nature of the critical eruptions of the skin, which relieve the body of some morbific matter, and often terminate acute diseases, whose repulsion would endanger the patient's life. A regular paroxysm of gout, being therefore an effort of nature to restore tone to a debilitated nervous system, should not be treated as a disease, but the efforts of nature assisted with a generous diet, and warm applications to the parts affected. This practice experience has proved the only safe one that can be adopted. The state of the constitution may, however, be so altered by a mode of living, as to render this operation of nature unnecessary.

PREVENTION.—Distilled water, employed as the common beverage at meals, and in every article of diet where water is required, will prove an excellent preventive to a recurrence of

the gouty fit, and by its use the constitution may be so far changed as to destroy the disposition to the disease, however strong the hereditary taint may be. Dr. Lambe notices a case of a gentleman of considerable respectability, that received the most essential benefit from the general adoption of this water. If the person has been accustomed to drink freely of wine, and spirituous liquors, he should diminish the quantity very gradually, till he arrives to only a quarter of a pint of wine in a day. or till he can relinquish it entirely. Bodily exercise, and a medium diet are necessary auxiliaries to this plan.

ATONIC GOUT.

The cure of this species of gout, consists in strengthening the system; for this purpose the stomachic mixture, No. 50, or two tea-spoonfuls of the volatile mixture of cascarilla should be taken with an infusion of Jamaica ginger. In case of nausea at the stomach, an emetic of ipecacuanha, No. 23, and a dose of equal parts of tincture of senna, No. 6, and tincture of rhubarb No. 4, should precede the use of these medicines. A generous diet and moderate exercise are indispensibly requisite. The feet should be kept warm by the use of flannel socks.

RETROCEDENT GOUT.

When gout affects the stomach and intestines, relief is to be attempted without delay, by the free exhibition of strong wines, ginger, given warm, and if this does not prove sufficiently potent, ardent spirits must be employed. A dessert-spoonful of æther, No. 12, has, in this case, answered very well, to which half an ounce of paregoric elixir, No. 9, will prove an useful addition. The bowels should be fomented, and the feet put in warm water, and afterwards rubbed with flour of mustard. When the gout flies to the head, the same means are to be pursued, with the addition of a large blister to the scalp. A strong mustard poultice to the feet may likewise, in this case, be substituted for the warm water. When it affects the lungs, half an ounce of paregoric elixir, with a tea-spoonful of æther and sal volatile, should be given occasionally, a blister applied over the breast-bone, and a mustard poultice to the feet.

MISPLACED GOUT.

When, instead of the usual determination to the joints, the inflammation falls on the lungs, or any internal part, it often requires to be

treated as a primary inflammatory affection, by blood-letting, application of blisters over the part, and to the extremities, aperient and sudorific medicines. But these cases are generally involved in too much ambiguity to be objects of domestic medicine; they often perplex even practitioners of experience, and there is no doubt, but that by the improper exhibition of cordials in one case, and bleeding in others, many lives have been destroyed. Nothing, therefore, should be done, (unless in cases of great emergency) without the sanction of medical men of judgment and experience.

GRAVEL AND STONE.

DESCRIPTION.—Small sand-like concretions, formed in the kidneys, which in their passage through the tubes (termed ureters) to the bladder, occasion a degree of pain, in proportion to their size and form, and not unfrequently inflammation. When a piece happens to be too large to pass off with the urine from the bladder, it gradually enlarges, and forms the disease called *Stone*, which, when smooth and round, is scarcely perceived by the patient, till, from its weight and magnitude, it becomes troublesome, producing, independent of local mischief, numbness in the thighs, and spasms in the calves of

the legs, from its pressure on the nerves leading to those parts. When the surface of the stone is rough, and its form angular, the sufferings of the patient are often excruciating, attended with a slimy discharge in the urine, and not uncommonly a quantity of blood, and a frequent inclination to go to stool.

Cause.—Hippocrates was the first who observed, that these concretions were the consequence of hard water; and this opinion has been very generally adopted. Dr. Lister has confirmed it by recent observations, that the inhabitants of Paris, who use much hard water in their aliment and beverage, are peculiarly subject to this disease; and Dr. Percival informs us, that a gentleman and lady in Manchester, who had suffered much from gravel, were greatly benefited by discontinuing the use of their pump-water, which was usually hard, and drinking, in its stead, the soft water of a neighbouring spring. So beneficial was this change to the lady, that she did not experience the least symptom of the disorder for two years afterwards.

Treatment.—When the gravel or small stone is passing from the kidneys to the bladder, it produces considerable pain, nausea, vomiting, &c. which constitute what is termed a fit of the

gravel. In this state the object should be to relax the part, and thus obviate inflammation, by the loss of blood from the arm, particularly if the patient be of a plethoric habit; the bowels should be rendered soluble by doses of castor oil, No. 3, and clysters of gruel, which not only assist the operation of the castor oil, but act as a fomentation to the parts most affected; and, for this purpose, the liquid should be injected by means of a large syringe, that it may be thrown higher up into the bowels than by the bladder and pipe usually employed. Warm bathing, by relaxing the system, will prove a great auxiliary to these means. After the operation of the castor oil, ten or twenty drops of laudanum may be given, according to the severity of the pain.

The diet, during the fit, should be low, and the beverage barley water, marsh mallow root, or linseed tea.

After the fit is over, the patient, whether affected with the gravel, or stone in the bladder, should take the pills No. 70, with the mephitic alkaline water, as recommended under the head of salt of wormwood, No. 21. Dr. Falkner, of Bath, has published several cases, in which this water proved very beneficial; and in the practice of Dr. Blount, an ingenious and able physician, in Hereford, it was attended with the same advantages. The super-carbonate of soda,

(noticed under the heads of Nos. 21 and 70,) I conceive to be an improvement on the mephitic alkaline water, and exempt from its bad effects. An infusion of the wild carrot seed has been found to afford great relief in gravel, and the *uva ursi* is much celebrated by Dr. Haen, and has certainly proved useful in many instances of stone and gravel, particularly when attended with great pain, and coffee-coloured, or bloody urine. Dr. Saunders directs two or three ounces of an infusion of the latter to be taken two or three times a day, made in the following manner:

Take of Uva Ursi, three drachms,
Infuse in a pint of boiling water till cold, then strain for use.

Distilled water is not only an excellent remedy for the stone and gravel, but so effectual a preventive, that I am persuaded, if a person will confine himself to its use, instead of common water, he would experience no symptom of the disease, however long he may have suffered by it. To ascertain how far it was possible to dissolve a stone in the bladder, by means of distilled water and soda, I made the following experiment: After curing a person of the gravel by distilled water, with the alkaline mephitic water, No. 21, made with it, and pills of carbonate of soda, I desired him to evacuate his urine every night and morning in a pot that

contained a stone extracted from a human bladder. The urine was poured off every day—on weighing the stone in a fortnight, I found it diminished upwards of two drachms, and the surface much altered, and in the course of six weeks after it was entirely dissolved, although of as hard a texture as any marble I ever saw. If the urine could be rendered thus capable of decomposing a stone out of the body, it certainly must be more so in the body, whose natural heat must assist its chemical action on the stone.

People afflicted with stone or gravel should avoid heavy and flatulent food, and all kind of high sauces, and particularly hard water. Many practitioners, from an analysis of the stone, have attributed their formation to the use of acids: was this, however, really the case, we should expect to find the disease most prevalent in those counties where an acid beverage is principally employed. The cyder in Herefordshire* is generally drank in a state of acetous fermentation, and I believe no county in England is more exempt from calculous complaints.

* It is remarkable, that since the establisment of an infirmary in this county, a period of thirty years, a case of stone has never occurred.

GUTTA SERENA

Is a species of blindness, without any evident disease or fault in the eye, except a dilation of the pupil. When there is a total loss of vision, the disease is said to be *perfect*, and *imperfect* when there is a power of distinguishing light from dark.

It consists in a paralytic affection of the optic nerve, in consequence of compression, debility, spasms, or poisons.

TREATMENT.—Although four causes are enumerated as producing this disease, the mode of treatment to be pursued for the recovery of the optic nerve is the same, except blood-letting, which is only advisable in plethoric habits, or when the disease is attended with a suppression of usual evacuations. A seton, or a perpetual blister to the nape of the neck should in all cases be employed, and the discharge kept up for at least two or three months, unless contra-indicated by great debility of the system. As a stimulant, mercury, in this case, has always answered best, and is more to be depended on than any other medicine, its use should therefore be persevered in till its effects on the constitution are manifested by a tender state of the gums;

for there are many instances on record that have been cured by salivation, after other medicines and even small doses of mercury had failed. The muriate of mercury is generally recommended, but as calomel will certainly have as good an effect, and, on account of being much milder, is, in domestic practice, entitled to the preference; it may be given, by making half a drachm into twenty pills, one of which should be taken every forenoon and at bed-time, till the gums become swelled and tender, when they should be discontinued. It will likewise be proper to stimulate the nostrils, and promote their secretion, the compound asarabacca powder, snuffed up the nostrils every night, has been generally employed; but Mr. Ware recommends the following powder in preference:

Take of Turbith Mineral, one grain,
Liquorice Powder, eight grains.

Of which this celebrated oculist advises one fourth to be snuffed up the nostrils, once or twice a day.

As a local stimulant, (to the balls of the eyes) an infusion of Cayanne pepper, made by infusing eight grains of the pepper pods, bruised, in half a pint of cold distilled water in a close vessel for three hours, when it should be filtered through paper for use. Two or three drops are to be conveyed between the eye-lids twice a day, and persisted in for a considerable time.

It appears that this application has been used with success at the Liverpool infirmary; the pain that it excites is often so accute as to require great fortitude to bear it for a sufficient length of time; when the patient will not submit to it, the electric sparks applied to the eyes twice a day, for six or eight minutes, will often answer as well, and in some instances I have known it answer better.

If these means should not succeed in restoring vision, the case may be considered of a very obstinate nature, and should be referred to an oculist of eminence, as Mr. Ware, of Bridge-street, or Mr. Platt, of Great Surry-street, Blackfriars, whose characters as such are very deservedly established.

HÆMOPTOE. See Spitting of Blood.

HEAD-ACH.

This complaint is rarely, if ever, a primary affection, but arises from plenitude of the vessels of the head, from obstructed perspiration, suppression of accustomed evacuations, as piles, bleeding or running at the nose, sweating of the feet, and by costiveness, or such causes that, by impeding the circulation in the extremities,

produce a determination of blood to the head. When it occurs in an elderly person of a plethoric habit, attended with giddiness, pulsation in the head, or noise in the ears, it should be considered as a symptom of approaching apoplexy; and the preventive means, recommended for that disease, should be employed without delay. It is sometimes the effect of depletion or emptiness, from loss of blood, and too frequent suckling of children, and often symptomatic of hysteric and epileptic complaints, and bad digestion.

Treatment.—When it arises from a determination of blood to the head, the application of a blister to the back of the neck, or cupping will be necessary, with the use of aperient mixture, No. 51, and warm water to the feet. When the stomach is suspected to be in fault, an emetic should precede the use of the stomachic mixture, No. 50. If periodical, the tonic mixture, No. 66, with the valerian tea, will afford relief. The acetic acid, No. 111, may, in all cases, be applied to the nostrils, and æther, No. 12, to the temples. People subject to this complaint should be particular in keeping their feet warm, lying with their head high in bed, and avoiding full meals. Such as are plethoric, or disposed to apoplexy, will be much benefited by having their heads shaved, and washed every morning with cold water, which will invigorate the ves-

sels of the brain, and at the same time check the afflux of blood into them. When it is evidently nervous, (being attended with a feeble pulse, disturbed sleep, and general debility of the system) or when the effect of inanition or depletion, and when the stomach appears to be in fault, the Peruvian bark, combined with such medicines that are calculated to allay nervous irritability, will prove the most efficacious remedy, as the following:

Take of Decoction of Peruvian Bark, (see No. 38) seven ounces,
Volatile Tincture of Valerian, half an ounce,
Spirit of Lavendar, No. 7, three drachms. Mix.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day.

The use of this medicine should be persisted in for at least a fortnight or three weeks.

In the Physical and Medical Journal, Dr. Lambe relates a case of a clergyman who had been afflicted with head ach for several years, which latterly had become almost incessant, and at times most distressingly violent, that was cured by the adoption of distilled water, instead of the water he was in the habit of using. For chronic or periodical head-achs, I believe distilled water to be an important remedy

Electricity has been much recommended, as a certain remedy for this complaint—when nervous, it may be of service; but when the vessels of the head are in a state of distension, it may either produce inflammation or apoplexy.

HEARTBURN.

DESCRIPTION.—An acute burning sensation about the pit of the stomach, attended with great anxiety, difficulty of breathing, acid eructations, flatulency, inquietude, and retching to vomit. It is generally a symptom of bad digestion. (See Indigestion.)

CAUSES.—It arises from a relaxed state of the stomach, admitting the acetous fermentation to take place in the vegetable part of the aliment, before it be properly digested, or from a morbid secretion of the gastric juice, a deficiency of mucus, which defends the coats of the stomach, or the irritation of pungent or spicy aliments, and a translation of gouty humours, &c.

CURE.—When it is occasioned by acidity, in consequence of indigestion, it may be relieved by doses of magnesia, No. 1, or salt of wormwood, No. 21. and entirely removed by the treatment recommended for indigestion.

The following pills I have known prove serviceable in very obstinate cases, after the bark and other tonic medicines had failed; they are not only calculated to neutralize any predominant acid in the stomach and intestines, but also to remove the cause of such acidity.

Take of Extract of Camomile Flowers, one drachm
Dried Natron, half a drachm,
Powdered Rhubarb, one scruple,
Oil of Caraway Seeds, eight drops.

Mix well together and divide into twenty-four pills, two or three of which are to be taken twice a day.

Fermented liquors should be avoided, as well as much vegetable food; distilled water with a small portion of good brandy will afford the best beverage.

When this complaint is attendant on pregnancy, it is often very distressing, and so obstinate as to be little relieved by medicine. A table spoonful of lime water, with double the quantity of milk, taken twice a day, is in such cases generally attended with advantage.

When a deficiency of mucus is the cause, animal jelly will be proper; and, when gouty, two tea-spoonfuls of the volatile tincture of cascarilla, in a wine glass full of lime water, every three or four hours, will afford relief.

HICCUP

Is a spasmodic affection of the diaphragm, commonly called midriff, and sometimes the stomach, from the irritation of acidity in the stomach, error of diet, poison, &c.

Cure.—When acidity is the cause, twenty drops of sal volatile, No. 11, with a tea-spoonful of magnesia, No. 1, in a glass of mint water, will afford relief, and its recurrence may be prevented by the use of the tonic mixture, No. 66. When occasioned by poison, or improper food, an emetic will be proper. (See the Treatment of Poisons, page 106.)

If the spasms should continue violent, a tea-spoonful of æther, with eight drops of laudanum, in a glass of cold water, will prove the best remedy. Æther may likewise be applied to the pit of the stomach, and the feet immersed in warm water.

Although the common cause of this complaint is an acidity in the stomach, Dr. Buchan recommends vinegar to be taken, without even specifying the quantity. Vinegar may excite the irritation, but it certainly is not likely to allay it.

HOOPING, or CHIN COUGH.

Description.—Is an infectious disorder, often epidemic, and occurs but once in a lifetime; hence children are generally the subjects

of it. It commences with the symptoms of common catarrh, the cough gradually becoming more violent till it is evidently convulsive, the patient not being able, often for a considerable time, to respire; and at length respiration is effected with a shrill kind of noise, like the crowing of a cock. These fits are attended with so great a determination to the head, that blood is often discharged from the nose or mouth. The eyes appear much swelled, and the fit often terminates in vomiting. It is seldom attended with fever.

CAUSES.—It is produced by a peculiar contagion of a specific nature. With respect to the seat of the disease, there are a variety of opinions. Dr. Butter, who has written expressly on the subject, refers it to the intestines; and observes, that neither the stomach or lungs are concerned in it. Walschmeid says, it proceeds from a disorder of the stomach. Hoffman attributes it to thin and acrid juices in the air vessels of the lungs; and others, with more apparent probability, assert, that it arises from a convulsive action of the midriff, commonly called the diaphragm.

CURE.—The cure should be attempted first by an emetic of the tartarised antimony wine, No. 14, and afterwards the mixture, No. 65.

The pectoral plaster, No. 97, should be applied to the pit of the stomach; and if the patient be plethoric, a blister between the shoulders, and loss of a few ounces of blood, should not be omitted. These, in the early stage of the complaint, will generally prove sufficient to effect a cure; but if, by neglect, the disease is once established, it will often run its course, in defiance of the most powerful remedies.

This disorder may be effectually cured by putting the system under the temporary influence of the vegetable poisons; for this purpose the extracts of hemlock, the henbane, and deadly night shade, have all been employed by different practitioners, and each have had their advocates. As children are differently affected by these medicines, it is impossible to give one general form for their exhibition; for, unless a certain effect is produced in the system to counteract the disease it will prove of no avail. The hemlock is much recommended by Dr. Butter, who relates twenty cases that were cured by it: this author recommends the extract, but the powder of the herb is unquestionably the best preparation, and the only one to be relied on, (for reasons assigned, p. 178). Some physicians prescribe it to be given with other medicines, as syrup of poppies, ipecacuanha and oxymel squills; but as they may interrupt its peculiar operation on the constitution, it should be given only in a

very simple vehicle. I have generally employed the following form, and when properly managed, so as to affect the system, which is manifested by nausea and giddiness, I have never known it to fail.

Take of powdered Hemlock Leaves, one scruple,
Mint Water, two ounces,
Simple Syrup, two drachms. Mix

A tea-spoonful to be given three times a day, to a child of any age, increasing the dose each time about ten drops, till it produces the effects above noticed.

The application of a blister over the breast bone, or between the shoulders, should on no account be neglected, particularly if the child be born of consumptive or scrophulous parents. It will prevent much mischief, and if it happens to produce strangury, it will, without any auxiliary, cure the disease. The almost immediate cessation of the disease in consequence of strangury, has induced many practitioners to give the tincture of cantharides in small doses of ten drops, with a view of exciting that affection; and when it succeeds in this effect, it never fails to cure the disease on the principle of a peculiar counter-irritation.

If the patient be much weakened, the use of wine will be proper, and the following bark mixture, as recommended by Dr. Temple:

Take of Decoction of Bark, three ounces and a half,
Paregoric Elixir, half an ounce,
Tincture of Cantharides, forty drops.

The dose from one to two table-spoonfuls every four hours; but it requires much judgment to determine when such medicines are proper; for, although the patient may be much reduced, there may be a disposition to inflammation in the lungs, which the Peruvian bark would assuredly aggravate.

Dr. Hugh Smith, after observing emetics occasionally repeated were of great service, and blisters, when the symptoms are urgent, directs the following:

Take of Musk Julep, six ounces,
Paregoric Elixir, half an ounce,
Volatile Tincture of Valerian, one drachm.

Two or three table-spoonfuls to be taken every three or four hours.

This disease, as I observed before, if uninterrupted by medicine, will run a certain course; but it frequently happens that, after the usual period, the cough continues from habit, in which case change of air will be of essential service, and generally cure it in a few days. The diet should be adapted to the strength and age of the child. In general, equal parts of barley

water and fresh milk will be sufficient both for the common beverage and diet.

When this disease proves fatal, it is by producing convulsions, inflammation in the lungs or brain, and, in scrophulous habits, consumption of the lungs, the prevention of which should be a principal object of practice. It cannot, therefore, be a proper case for domestic medicine.

HYPOCHONDRIASIS; or, The HYPOCHONDRIAC AFFECTION; (commonly called Vapours, or Low Spirits.

The celebrated Dr. Cullen distinguishes this disease by a concurrence of the following circumstances:—A langour, listlessness, or want of resolution and activity, with respect to all undertakings; a disposition to seriousness, sadness, and timidity as to all future events; an apprehension of the worst or most unhappy state of them, and therefore often, on slight grounds, a dread of great evil. Such persons are particularly attentive to the state of their own health, and to the smallest change of feeling in their bodies; from any unusual sensation, perhaps, of the slightest kind, they apprehend great danger, and even death itself; and, in respect to all these feelings and apprehensions, there is, for

the most part, unfortunately, the most obstinate belief and persuasion. This diseased state of mind is sometimes attended with symptoms of indigestion, hysterical affections, and sometimes with melancholy; but these are merely effects.

This turn of mind seldom appears early in life, and more usually in advanced age; but when it has once taken place, it goes on increasing. It is solely to be attributed to imbecility of mind, or weakness of imagination, and, when far advanced, may be considered little less than a slight species of partial insanity, arising from a want of natural energy of mind, or proper education, to have induced the person to have engaged in the rational pursuits of life.

Treatment.—The most important object of our practice in this disease, is, to consider the management of the mind, which is often nice and difficult. The firm persuasion that generally prevails in such patients, does not allow their feelings to be treated as imaginary, nor their apprehensions of danger to be considered as groundless, though we may be persuaded it is the case in both respects. Such patients, therefore, are not to be treated either by raillery or reasoning. It is the practice of hypochondriacs to often change their medical attendants; and indeed they often do it consistently; for if the

physician do not admit the reality of the disease, it cannot be supposed he will take much pains to cure it, or to avert a danger of which they entertain no apprehension. If, in any case, the pious fraud of what is termed a placebo be allowable, it seems to be in treating hypochondriacs, who, anxious for relief, are fond of medicines, and, though often disappointed, will still take every new drug that can be proposed to them. Hence they generally become the dupes of quacks; and it is a well-known fact, that many Jew pedlars, coblers, and carpenters, have amassed considerable wealth, by imposing on them their nervous cordials, &c. by artfully advertising them, so as to attract their notice in the public prints; and if this practice was confined to such patients, instead of condemning it, I should be disposed to encourage the fraud; for, if the imagination be diverted by them, the purchase cannot be considered dear at any rate; and if the medicines did not bear a high price, they would not meet with their full confidence; and even if they should prove hurtful, it is, to a life intolerable to the possessor, distressing to all around him, and entirely useless to the community.

As it is the nature of man to indulge every present emotion, so the hypochondriac cherishes his fears, and, attentive to every feeling, finds, in trifles as light as air, a strong confirmation of

his apprehensions; his cure, therefore, dep upon the interruption of his attention, or upon its being diverted to other objects than his own feelings. Whatever aversion to application of any kind may appear, there is certainly nothing more pernicious to them than absolute idleness, or a vacancy from all earnest pursuits. It is owing to wealth, admitting of indolence, and leading to the pursuit of transitory and unsatisfying amusements, or to that of exhausting pleasures only, that the present times exhibit to us so many melancholy instances of this depraved state of imagination. The mind should not only be diverted from this supposed bodily affection, &c. by employments suitable to the circumstances and situation in life, and unattended with much emotion, anxiety, or fatigue, but also various kinds of sport and hunting, which when pursued with some ardour and attended with exercise, if not too violent, are amongst the most useful. Within doors, company which engages attention, willingly yielded to, and is at the same time of a chearful kind, will be always found of great service. Play, in which some skill is required, and where the stake is not an object of much anxiety, if not too long protracted, may often be admitted. Music, to a nice ear, is a hazardous amusement, as long attention to it is very fatiguing.

When amusements of every kind are rejected,

…hanical means of interrupting thought are the remedies to be sought for. Walking is seldom of this kind, though, as gratifying to the restlessness of hypochondriacs, it has sometimes been found useful. The required interruption of thought is best obtained by riding on horseback, or in driving a carriage of any kind. The exercise of sailing, unless in an open boat, engaging some attention, does very little service. Exercise in an easy carriage, in the direction of which the traveller takes no practice, unless it be on rough roads, or driven pretty quickly, and of long continuance, is of little advantage. The exercise that will prove most effectual, is that which is employed in the pursuit of a journey; first, because it withdraws a person from many objects of uneasiness and care which might present themselves at home—secondly, as it engages the person in more constant exercise, and in a greater degree than is commonly taken in airing near home—and lastly, as it is constantly presenting new objects which call forth a person's attention—The symptoms of indigestion and hysteric complaints, that so frequently attend this state of mind, although the effect, rather than the cause, are objects of practice, inasmuch as they tend to aggravate and realize the false apprehensions of the patient. These secondary affections require the same mode of treatment as recommended for indigestion and the hyste-

ric disease.—Warm bathing, and the drinking of tea and coffee, which are extremely hurtful to people with bad digestion, are often very useful, however, to the hypochondriac.

HYSTERIC FITS

Consist in too great a mobility and irritability of the nervous system, and consequently produced by whatever weakens or renders the body irritable; they most commonly appear in females; but sometimes, though rarely, attack males in a slighter degree.

DESCRIPTION.—Hysteric fits commonly begin with some pain and fullness in the left side of the belly; from this a ball* seems to move with a grumbling noise into the other parts of the bowels, and making, as it were, various convolutions there, seems to move into the stomach, and more distinctly still, rises up to the top of the gullet, where it remains for some time, and, by its pressure on the wind-pipe, gives a sense of suffocation. By the time the disease has proceeded thus far, the patient is affected with a stupor and insensibility, while, at the same time, the body is agitated with various convulsions,

* This sensation is technically termed the *Hysteric Ball.*

the trunk being writhed to and fro, and the limbs variously agitated; commonly the convulsive motion of one arm is that of beating with the closed fist on the breast very violently, and repeatedly. This state continues for some time, and has, during that time, some remissions and renewals of the convulsive motions, but they at length cease, leaving the patient in a stupid, and, seemingly, sleeping state. More or less suddenly, frequently with repeated sighing and sobbing, together with a murmuring noise in the belly, the patient returns to the exercise of sense and motion, and generally without any recollection of the several circumstances that had taken place during the fit.

In females, this disease occurs from the age of puberty to that of 35 years, and very rarely appears before the former, or after the latter of these periods, and generally attacks about the time of menstruation: it affects the barren more than the breeding woman, and the sanguine and robust more than the phlegmatic and melancholic.

Treatment.—The fit may be relieved by the anti-hysteric mixture, No. 54. to each dose of which, in obstinate cases, a tea-spoonful of æther, and ten drops of laudanum, No. 18, may be added. The feet should be immersed in warm water; hartshorn, No. 10, or smelling salts,

No. 110. and applied to the nostrils, and cold water sprinkled over the face. If the patient is incapable of swallowing, two drachms of the tincture of asafœtida may be administered clyster ways, in half a pint of gruel; and, in case the subject be young and plethoric, the loss of six or eight ounces of blood from the arm will often relieve the spasms; but this remedy should never be had recourse to, unless sanctioned by a regular practitioner in medicine. During the intermission of the fit, the nervous system should be strengthened, to prevent a recurrence, by the use of the tonic mixture, No. 66, or the volatile tincture of Valerian, in the dose of a tea-spoonful three times a day, in a wine glass of cold camomile tea, or two table-spoonfuls of the decoction of Peruvian bark, (See No. 33.)

Distinction.—The hypochondriac affection in women is often mistaken for this disease: it may, however, be distinguished from hypochondriasis, by its occurring at the early period of puberty, while the hypochondriasis does not occur till after the age of 35: hysterics, likewise, attack the sanguine and plethoric; but hypochondriasis the melancholic.

INCONTINENCE OF URINE.

Description.—An involuntary evacuation of irne.

CAUSES.—It arises from weakness or palsy of the muscle of the bladder, called *The Sphincter;* sometimes from calculous concretions, irritating the neck of the bladder, or from injury of parts in the operation for extracting the stone; from pressure of the womb in a state of pregnancy, and sometimes from a communication between the bladder and vagina.

TREATMENT.—When it arises from the want of tone or power in the muscular fibres of the bladder, a blister should be applied, low down on the back-bone, and to the part termed the perinæum. The tonic mixture, No. 66. should be taken, with ten drops of tincture of cantharides in each dose, with cold-bathing, electricity, and a generous diet. When it is occasioned by stone or gravel, it requires the same treatment as already recommended for the latter disease. When the effect of injury, sustained in the operation for the stone, great relief is afforded by the pressure of the instruments called *Jugum* and *Pessary*. When it is produced by an impregnated womb, an horizontal position should be observed as much as possible; and when, from a communication between the bladder and vagina, it will neither admit of cure or relief. This distressing case is generally produced by difficult parturition, and is often attributed to palsy or loss of tone in the muscular fibres of

the bladder, and, as such, I have known it treated by the first physicians, to the great injury of the patient; practitioners should therefore satisfy their minds, as to the *real cause* of the disease, before they prescribe active remedies for its cure.

INDIGESTION.

DESCRIPTION.—A loss of appetite, transient distensions of the stomach and bowels from flatulency, eructations, heart-burn, generally costiveness, squeamishness, sometimes vomiting; the body at length, for the want of proper nourishment, becomes much emaciated, and affected with symptoms of general debility.

CAUSES.—It arises from a loss of tone in the muscular fibres of the stomach, induced by the too free use of spirituous liquors, by poor diet, the over distension of the stomach, too great a quantity of warm relaxing liquors, as tea and coffee, acid unripe fruit, an indolent and sedentary life, or whatever may tend to weaken the digestive organs. A depravity or deficiency of the gastric juice is likewise often the cause of bad digestion.

The prevalency of indigestion in this country is to be attributed to inactive life, error of diet,

and the great use of spirituous and vinous liquors. With respect to our natural food, the formation of the teeth and intestines prove that we are destined to live both on animal and vegetable food; and thus we find the flesh of animals, with a proportionate quantity of vegetables, a diet best adapted to our frame. It is not, however, in the quality, but the quantity of food, in which man generally errs. No more food should be taken than is required by nature to supply the waste the body has sustained, which will depend on the degree of exercise it has gone through—The quantity should therefore be proportioned to the degree of exertion the body undergoes, and not to the artificial appetites excited by the use of bitters, or spirituous liquors. Nothing strengthens the digestive organs more than bodily exertion, which is evinced by the great appetite and good digestion of people who are compelled by necessity to earn their bread by their daily exertions; indolence is therefore one cause of indigestion in this country, particularly among ladies of fashion. The principal cause among gentlemen, is, the abuse of spirituous liquors—I mean the practice of drinking a quantity of wine during and after meals. The port and sherry wine consumed in this country is mixed with a quantity of strong brandy or alcohol, which is done (as the dealers in these articles say) to adapt it to the British palate, and render it

fit for keeping, so that instead of wine, it is really nothing less than a weak spirit; indeed, so much so, that I have been able to obtain nearly six ounces of alcohol from a quart of port wine. This spirit is extremely pernicious to animal and vegetable life, and, by repetition, will certainly prove to both (although gradual) a certain poison. After the stomach has been accustomed to its action, it requires a repetition to keep up its vigour, and, as life advances, so an additional quantity becomes necessary; thus the internal coat of the stomach is hardened, and the pylorus often affected with schirrosity; hence the gastric secretion will, of course, be diseased*, and the foundation of the most distressing complaint that can possibly assail the human frame laid often in the prime of life. The great numbers that die of schirrosities of the pylorus, (which terminate in cancer,) brought on by the abuse of spirits, is a melancholy proof of this assertion†. Independent of this alcohol, I have frequently detected a quantity of lead in solution; indeed, this practice is become so prevalent, on account of the pleasant astringency it imparts to

* The effects of a morbid secretion of the gastric juice are generally, if not always, erroneously attributed to a vitiated state of the bile.—See Bilious Affections.

† The use of spirituous liquors, by stimulating the sanguiferous system, and thus producing determination of blood to the brain, is, no doubt, a principal cause of the frequency of apoplexy in this country.

it, that I thought it incumbent to give directions for making a test for its detection, (see Cream of Tartar); and I would advise every person to subject it to the experiment before they attempt to drink any or purchase a quantity for their own use*. It is a common custom to attribute the effects of indigestion to the insalubrity of the aliment that was taken; thus articles become condemned as improper for food, which, in an healthy stomach, would afford the most nourishing chyle, and, on consulting the Treatises on Diet and Regimen, lately published, we find the public cautioned against the use of one article, on account of its becoming acescent, a second flatulent, a third aperient; effects which are attributable only to the debilitated state of the digestive organs.

Three kinds of appetites may beobserved: First, the *natural appetite*, which is equally stimulated and satisfied with the most simple dish as with the most palatable---Second, the *artificial appetite*, or that excited by stomachic elixirs, liquers, pickles, digestive salts, &c. and which remain only as long as the operation of these stimulants continue—Third, the *habitual appetite*, or that by which we accustom ourselves to take meals at certain hours, and frequently

* Lead thus swallowed, not only injures the stomach, but produces the most obstinate and dangerous species of cholic, which often terminates in inflammation of the intestines.

without any appetite. The true and healthy appetite alone can ascertain the quantity of aliment proper for the individual. If, in that state, we no longer relish a common dish, it is a certain criterion of its disagreeing with the digestive organs. If, after dinner, we feel ourselves as chearful as before it, we may be assured we have taken a proper meal; for, if the proper measure be exceeded, torpor and relaxation will be the necessary consequences; the faculty of digestion will be impaired, and a variety of complaints gradually induced.

TREATMENT.—The cure will of course depend on restoring the tone of the stomach, and avoiding the occasional causes. For this purpose it will first be proper to evacuate the stomach, by the emetic powder, No. 77, afterwards the stomachic mixture, No. 50, or the tonic mixture, No. 66, may be taken with advantage. Two drachms of either of the neutral salts, No. 2, may likewise be taken every other morning, to increase the peristaltic motion of the intestines, and remove redundant slime. If acidity should prevail in the stomach, a tea-spoonful of magnesia may be taken, in the morning dose, of the strengthening mixture, instead of the neutral salts. In debilitated, gouty, or languid constitutions, the volatile tincture of cascarilla, with the farina of the Jamaica ginger, will prove an excellent remedy.

Quassia has lately been much recommended in cases of indigestion; but from its poisonous effects on insects and small animals, which it speedily destroys, I cannot consider it a safe remedy.

The extract of camomile is a favourite stomachic medicine with Dr. Cam, of Hereford; it may be taken in the following manner:

Take of Extract of Camomile, one drachm,
Purified Natron, one ditto,
Tincture of Ginger, two ditto,
Mint Water, six ounces. Mix.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken three times a day; or the following pills, which will destroy acidity, expel flatulency, strengthen the stomach, and obviate costiveness.

Take of Extract of Camomile, one drachm,
Dried Natron, half ditto,
Powdered Rhubarb, one scruple,
Oil of Caraway-seeds, ten drops,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form twenty-four pills.

Two to be taken two or three times a day.

An alkaline tincture of ginger and camomile, sold under the name of the *Compound Essence of Ginger and Camomile*, likewise affords a good remedy for relieving all the symptoms, as well as removing the cause; it is, however, very similar to the above pills.

Till the stomach is restored to a healthy state by these means, such a diet should be adopted as will coincide with the remedies, and not aggravate the symptoms. All vegetable food, and particularly leaven bread, being disposed to ferment, and thus generate acidity and flatulency, should be avoided in much quantity, and the diet consist principally of animal food, which, in weakly stomachs, will digest better than vegetable alone; and although spirituous liquors are the chief agents in producing the disease, now is not the time to abandon them entirely—as wine and malt liquor will soon turn acid, spirits will prove more beneficial; a little brandy may therefore be allowed, diluted with a little water. If the patient be subject to gout, ginger may likewise be taken in the quantity directed for gout. To this treatment, exercise will prove a very powerful auxiliary.

Prevention.—It must appear evident, from the observations on the causes of this disease, that the only effectual prevention to its recurrence consists in, first, properly exercising the body—secondly, proportioning the quantity of food to the degree of exercise—and, thirdly, relinquishing the use of spirituous or vinous liquors; but if sufficient bodily exertions cannot be taken, an artificial appetite must be produced, by stimulating the digestive organs, such

stimulants should be employed that will not injure the coats of the stomach, or by accelerating the circulation, produce a determination to the brain. Of this class, ginger, Cayenne pepper, and well seasoned pickles are the most innocent and effectual. Of wines, I consider genuine claret, instead of being pernicious, to be a salutary beverage, in the quantity of a glass or two after meals; but this wine is too often mixed with English brandy, which entirely destroys its salubrious property. The claret wine that comes direct from Bourdeaux, under the name of Bloomfield's Claret, I have found entirely free from any addition, or pernicious admixture whatever. No wine is wholesome that will blaze on being thrown in the fire.

Such as are in the habit of drinking a quantity of spirit, or spirituous wines, will receive great relief by taking distilled water at meals, instead of wine or malt liquors, which will in a great measure obviate the injurious effects of an over-quantity of spirit or wine. I have known cases of indigestion from the use of spirits, attended with symptoms of a diseased pylorus, that were cured by taking for their common beverage nothing but distilled water, and gradually diminishing the quantity of wine, till they have reduced it from eight to only one glass a day, and sometimes not so much.

INFLAMMATORY FEVER.

Description.—A continual heat, without intermission, attended with a throbbing pungent pain in the head, but sometimes dull and heavy. The face appears red and bloated, the pulse strong, full, and frequent, great thirst, a sense of general lassitude, the urine high-coloured, and, on standing, deposits a brick dust-like sediment; the tongue generally covered with a white fur, the judgment much impaired, and rest disturbed.

Causes.—Whatever tends to hurry on the circulation of the blood, by increasing the action of the heart and arteries, will, under certain circumstances, produce this fever, as great pain, hard labour, immoderate use of spirituous liquors, high living, exposure to the heat of the sun, the repulsion or absorption of morbific humour, accidents, frequently cold, and seldom by putrid or infectious vapours.

Treatment.—The action of the arterial system should first be diminished by blood-letting, after which two grains of tartar emetic, will often, by emptying the stomach and bowels, and producing a determination to the skin,

check its further progress. If the fever, however, should continue, the saline mixture may be taken, as directed under the head of chrystallized acid of lemon, No. 22, and the perspiration kept up, by small doses of ten or twenty drops of tartarized antimony wine, No. 14, with warm diluent liquids, as barley water, warm whey, &c. and the body laxative, by means of small doses of the neutral salts, No. 2, If the head be much affected, the application of leeches to the temples, a blister to the nape of the neck, and the immersion of the feet in warm water should not be neglected; and if the chest be affected, the loss of blood should be repeated, and a blister applied over the breast-bone. If, when the fever is almost entirely gone off, the delirium, for want of sleep, should continue, ten or twelve drops of laudanum, No. 18, may be given in a dose of the saline mixture. The diet should be principally arrow-root, jelly, barley water, gruel, or tapioca, without spices or wine, till the inflammatory symptoms are considerably abated.

When the fever is entirely removed, the strength of the system may be restored by the use of the following mixture:

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm, dissolve in half a pint of
Mint Water, and add
Sweet Spirit of Nitre, three drachms.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken four times a day.

If the salt of bark cannot be procured, half a pint of the decoction, (see Peruvian bark, No. 34) may be substituted for it and the mint water.

Fevers of all kinds are involved in too much obscurity, to constitute a part of domestic medicine, inflammatory fevers often suddenly changing to the low or putrid kind, when a different mode of practice is required. They are often symptomatic of local mischief in the system, the nature of which can only be ascertained by medical practitioners. They likewise often affect one part of the body more than another, and frequently those parts most necessary for life, as the brain and lungs, and if those determinations are not properly attended to, and counteracted, those parts may sustain, in the course of a few hours, too much injury ever to be recovered by the efforts of the most skilful practitioners.

INFLAMMATION OF THE BRAIN, OR PHRENZY.

People in the vigour of life, the passionate, the studious, and the predisposed to apoplexy, are most subject to this disorder.

DESCRIPTION.—It generally commences with

rigors, tremor of the extremities, a sense of lassitude and stupor. The veins in the head at length become distended, and the arteries beat with increased force; the eyes are often steadfastly fixed, fierce, and sometimes sparkle; the voice shrill, and language incoherent, a proneness to anger, and at times very resolute to get out of bed; the pulse in the wrist is generally languid, the extremities cold; on dozing, the patient generally talks or mutters a great deal, with a chattering of the teeth, trembling of the hands, and almost constant motion of the fingers, which seem to be picking or gathering something, and often do gather the nap of the bedclothes. After the fourth day, the delirium is more continual and furious, with watching, convulsions, and hiccup, white stools, and at length the stools and urine are discharged involuntarily; the pupils of the eyes dilated, and other symptoms of approaching dissolution ensue; or critical sweats and looseness come on, bleeding at the nose, or piles, which are of a more propitious import.

Causes.—Excessive drinking, violent passions of the mind, exposure of the head to the sun, long watching, close application of the mind, suppression of natural periodical evacuations, concussion of the brain, and whatever may increase the afflux of blood into the head.

TREATMENT.—The most powerful remedies should be employed on the first attack of the disease, to unload the vessels of the head; for this purpose as much blood should be extracted as the system will bear, either by opening one or both of the temporal arteries, or cupping the scalp or nape of the neck; or taking from the jugular vein, or the arm, by a large orifice, twelve or sixteen ounces of blood, or till the patient faints, which will prove of much greater advantage than double the quantity extracted from a small vessel, or by leeches. The head should be shaved, and the whole of the scalp covered with a blister. The next object is to produce a determination of blood from the head, by doses of the aperient mixture, No. 51, and a clyster, No. 86. With the same view blisters should be applied to the feet, the thighs, and arms; or the mustard poultice, No. 100. Folds of cloth, wet with vinegar, may be applied to the forehead, or ice or snow to the whole head. The room should be kept dark and quiet, and the diet only barley-water, acidulated with lemon juice. Such is the delicate structure of the seat of the disease, that no time should be lost in the employment of these means, which, from the feeble state of the pulse, are too often neglected till the brain has sustained irreparable mischief. Apothecaries, whose practice is

generally governed by the state of the pulse, and the effect more than the cause of disease, too often confound this affection with putrid fever, and instead of the depleting plan recommended above, treat the phrenetic symptoms as delirium from debility. This error I some time since detected in the practice of an apothecary, much revered by his female patients for the *profundity* of his knowledge and great skill in *nervous* and *bilious* complaints, &c. The pulse, observes the learned Celsus, *res fallacissima est*; and in this disease it is particularly so.

INFLAMMATION OF THE EYE. See Eye, Inflammation of.

INFLAMMATION OF THE INTESTINES.

Description.—A fixed pain in the belly, increased on pressure, attended with the usual symptoms of fever, costiveness, and vomiting. The pain is felt in different parts of the bowels, according to the seat of the inflammation, and very often it spreads over the whole belly, and is felt more especially about the navel. The pulse is quick, hard, and small.

Causes.—It may be occasioned by external contusion; by acrids of various kinds taken

into the stomach; frequently by very cold drink, swallowed when the body is very warm; or cold applied to the lower extremities, or belly itself; it is sometimes produced by costiveness; and often supervenes in the progress of cholic; or produced by the strangulation of a protruded portion of the intestine in a rupture, or what is commonly termed a broken belly.

TREATMENT.—Copious bleeding, emollient clysters of starch, frequently repeated, fomentations, the warm bath, a large blister on the belly, small anodyne clysters, (see No. 85,) occasionally injected, are the most effectual remedies in the first stage of this violent disease. On account of the vomitting generally attending it, great care must be taken not to aggravate this symptom, either by the quantity or quality of any thing thrown into the stomach.

Such is the nature of this complaint, that we cannot be too cautious either in the administration of medicines or diluents by the mouth; for the capacity of the intestinal canalis often so diminished, as to be sometimes nearly obliterated or shut up, that a quantity of any kind of liquid or aliment, however simple in themselves, must, by distending the intestines, or being forced against the obstruction, necessarily increase the irritation, and consequently aggravate all the symptoms. Aperient medicines,

whose action depends on the irritation they produce, are likewise in many cases improper. The frequent use of emollient clysters will supersede their necessity, and at the same time act as a fomentation to the parts. Fresh olive oil in the dose of a table-spoonful, is, perhaps, the only medicine that can be admitted with safety. Laudanum may sometimes be employed to great advantage, but in others it may prove as injurious—clysterways it is often as efficacious, and cannot do mischief. When the pain remits and the violence of the symptoms abate, mild diluents may be allowed, as chicken broth, linseed tea, &c. and if such liquors be retained without aggravating the symptoms, a little fine castor oil may given every three or four hours, till it procures a passage.

If the state of the intestine is suspected to exist, technically termed volvulus or introsusception, that is, a preternatural ingress of one portion of the intestine into the other, or a reduplication of the intestine, quicksilver, in the quantity of an ounce, should be given, and as its effects are entirely mechanical, the patient should be put in an erect posture, that it may the better press on the inverted part, and kept in that state till it is supposed it has passed the stricture, which will require but a few minutes. He may then be replaced in bed, when the quicksilver will more easily pass through him.

Dr. Buchan observes, that "when quicksilver is given in too large a quantity, it defeats its own intention, as it drags down the bottom of the stomach, which prevents its getting over the pylorus. In this case, says the author, he should be *hung up by the heels*, in order that the quicksilver should be discharged by the mouth!" Such are the powers of the stomach and the abdomenal muscles that act in concert with it, that to *drag down the stomach*, seven pounds of that mineral would not be sufficient; but supposing it probable that the usual quantity of three or four ounces, or even a pound, should have such an effect, instead of *hanging* the poor patient, nearly exhausted by pain, up by the heels, the Doctor might have directed him gently to turn on the right side, so that the quicksilver might run through the pylorus, and thus answer the purpose for which it was given. The only part of the bowels in which quicksilver is likely to lodge, is at the termination of the small gut, into the portion called the colon; the ascending direction that portion of the intestine takes, affords a considerable obstacle to its passage in an erect position, but which is however removed by an horizontal posture.

When the inflammation is the effect of poisons swallowed, it requires the same treatment as already recommended for poisons.

INFLAMMATION OF THE THROAT, OR QUINSY.

This disease occurs principally in spring and autumn, when vicissitudes of heat and cold are frequent. It affects especially the young and sanguine, and a disposition to it is often acquired by habit.

CAUSE.—It is always occasioned by the external application of cold, particularly about the neck.

TREATMENT.—The inflammation soon terminating in suppuration, active means should be speedily employed for its resolution. The patient should take a full dose of either of the neutral salts, No. 2, or the aperient mixture, No. 51, and, after its operation, the saline mixture, No. 67, with twenty drops of antimonial wine at bed-time. The gargle, No. 81, or 82, should be used frequently, and hartshorn applied externally, which for slight cases will generally prove sufficient; but if the inflammation should so increase as to give a sensation of suffocation, bleeding by leeches, or from the jugular vein, and a blister under the chin, to reach nearly from one ear to the other will be also necessary.

The diet should be gruel, arrow root, and barley-water, acidulated with lemon juice. If, notwithstanding these means, matter should form, the gargle, and aperient and saline medicines should be omitted, and the patient allowed a little wine, and beef tea, till he is able to swallow more substantial food, and after the matter is evacuated, the detergent gargle, No. 84, should be employed. If the patient should be incapable of taking nourishment, a clyster of starch or broth should be administered three or four times a day, with the view of supporting the body.

INFLAMMATION OF THE LUNGS.

Description.—This disease commonly comes on with shiverings and other symptoms of fever, soon succeeded by difficulty of breathing, cough, pain in some part of the chest, particularly on inspiration; a sense of fullness in, and tightness across the chest, great anxiety about the heart, restlessness, loss of appetite and sleep, the pulse quick, sometimes hard, and seldom strong, or regularly full, the breath hot, the tongue covered with a yellowish mucus, and the urine turbid. The difficulty of breathing is most considerable on inspiration and an horizontal position, and in order to facilitate respiration, the

shoulders and head are kept more or less elevated. From the obstruction to the free passage of blood through the lungs, the veins of the neck are distended, the face swollen, with a dark red colour about the eyes and cheeks. The pain in the chest is generally aggravated by the patient lying on the side affected, though sometimes the contrary happens, and very often he can lie easy only on the back.

CAUSES.—It is occasioned by the application of cold to the body, obstructing the natural perspiration of the skin, and thus producing a determination to the lungs, while, at the same time, the lungs themselves are exposed to the action of cold, also by over distention.

TREATMENT.—The principal object in the cure of this disease, is to empty the vessels of the lungs, by proper depletion, and such remedies that are calculated to produce a determination of blood to the surface of the body and extremities, which, on account of the importance of the part affected, should be employed as *early* and *fully* as possible.

For this purpose twelve or sixteen ounces of blood should be taken by a large orifice from the arm, and repeated according to the strength of the patient and urgency of the symptoms; with the same view, a large blister should be applied to the side most affected, and if the patient should complain of pain in the head,

pulsation or drowsiness, one should likewise be applied to the back of the neck, and even to the feet. A dose of the aperient mixture No. 51, should be taken every two hours, till it operates, and afterwards the cough mixture, No. 55, according to the directions there specified. The patient should be suffered to drink plentifully of a weak decoction of pearl barley and liquorice-root, which will be sufficient for his support, till the symptoms are considerably abated, when he may be allowed some arrow root, tapioca, or sago jelly. When the inflammatory symptoms have subsided, the decoction of the Iceland liverwort, recommended for consumption of the lungs, will prove the best restorative.

Such is the delicate structure of this organ, that it will not sustain inflammatory attacks many hours before its important functions are destroyed, or so much mischief produced as to lay the foundation of consumption, particularly if tubercles happen to exist in them. The means therefore recommended above for its resolution should be all put into immediate execution, and not by degrees, as is too often the practice with timid apothecaries, by which many lives are no doubt lost, that might have been saved, had the means been adopted *at the same time.*

INFLUENZA. See Catarrh.

INTERMITTENT FEVER, OR AGUE.

When the fit of this disease returns every day, it is called a *Quotidian*; when every other day, *Tertian*, and *Quartan* when the fit occurs in the first and fourth days, the two intervening ones being free; they are likewise called *Autumnal*, when they begin in *August*, and *Vernal* when in *February*. Other varieties are observed by authors, but as they require the same mode of treatment, and arise from the same cause, it will be unnecessary to notice them here.

DESCRIPTION.—A paroxysm of intermittent fever is divided into three stages, viz. *The Cold, Hot,* and *Sweating*. The *Cold Fit* begins with a remarkable shivering, increasing to a kind of convulsive shaking of the whole body, which, after continuing an hour or two, is gradually succeeded by a degree of heat, generally slow, but sometimes otherwise, with pain in the head, thirst, and bitterness in the mouth, a quick and unusual pulse, which constitute the *Hot Fit;* as the heat abates, a moisture is perceptible on the skin, which often increases to a profuse perspiration, termed the *Sweating Fit*. The whole paroxysm generally occupies eight, and never less than six hours; the fever then entirely quits

the patient, and regularly returns after the periods noticed above. The patient is likewise affected with heaviness, pain in the head, limbs, and loins, pallid complexion, chilliness of the extremities, yawning, stretching, violent shaking, small slow pulse, thirst, retching, sometimes vomiting a bilious matter, and, during the hot fit, a heat of the whole body, redness, distention of skin, the pulse quick and strong, short breath, raving, high-coloured urine, without sediment, which abate by degrees, and terminates in an universal sweat.

Cause.—The cause, according to Dr. Cullen, is solely the effluvia from marshes; other physicians have noticed many more, indeed some have enumerated every thing likely to weaken the body; but these, although they may dispose the body for receiving the disease, or may augment it, are not capable of producing it, without the concurrence of marsh effluvia.

Treatment.—The Peruvian bark, properly adminstered, is both a safe and certain remedy for this disease, and may be given both during the hot and cold fits, as directed under the head of Peruvian bark, No. 33, (see likewise, Nos. 24, and 77.) An emetic should, however, be premised, and repeated, if the bark does not suc-

ceed in three days after its first exhibition. The diet should be generous, and the patient allowed a glass or two of port wine, every day after dinner. This method of treatment is applicable to every variety of the disease, and a continuance of the bark for at least a week, in smaller doses and less frequent, is often necessary, after the disease has left the patient, in order to prevent its recurrence.

ITCH.

Distinction.—This disorder usually appears about the wrist, fingers, arms, and thighs, but never on the head. The itching is much aggravated by warmth, particularly in an evening, and when warm in bed.

Cause.—From microscopical examination, it is asserted, that this disease is produced by a small kind of animalculæ*, of a whitish colour, and shaped like a tortoise, each having six feet, and a sharp head, with two sharp horns on its point, of a hard formation, so as not to be destroyed by friction or pressure, others assert, with greater probability, that it arises from a serous ichor, which by irritating the small rami-

* This animal is supposed to run over the surface of the body, and by occasionally penetrating the skin, produces the eruption and itching.

fications of the nerves under the cuticle, occasions the itching and heat.

Treatment.—Sulphur is a certain remedy for this disease, and more safe and expeditious than any other application we are acquainted with. In the itch ointment, No. 96, the unpleasant smell of this medicine is disguised. The part affected should be well anointed with it every night, till the eruption entirely disappears. The internal use of sulphur will, in all cases, assist its external application. The linen should be clean and often changed, and not worn again before it be well washed and bleached, so as to destroy the animalculæ that may have lodged in them. The decoction of white hellebore, is by some preferred, on account of the offensive smell of the sulphur, and often succeeds. It may be made in the following manner:

> Take of White Hellebore Root, bruised, two ounces; boil in a quart of water to a pint and half, then strain, and add Lavender Water, four ounces,

With which the parts affected should be washed two or three times a day.

Mercurial applications are much used, and preferred by many eminent practitioners, but they are neither so safe or certain as sulphur, and

may, under certain circumstances, prove very hurtful to the constitution.

JAUNDICE.

Description.—This disease comes on with listlessness, loss of appetite, drowsiness, oppression, and costiveness, soon succeeded by a yellow appearance of the whites of the eyes, the nails of the fingers, and at length the whole surface of the body; the urine high-coloured, with a yellow sediment, which imparts its colour to linen; the stools whitish or grey, frequently a violent pain extending from the right side to the pit of the stomach, which is considerably aggravated after meals; some are much disposed to sleep, and others to watchfulness. After the disease has existed a few days, the whole of the secretions, the brain, and bones become tinged with the colouring matter of the bile.

Causes.—It is produced by whatever may obstruct the passage of the bile through its natural channel to the intestines, as biliary concretions lodged in the duct, or from compression of scirrhous enlargements of the viscera, distention of the intestines by flatulency, or an impregnated uterus, or from spasmodic contraction of the biliary duct itself, without such mechanical

causes. A redundancy of bile in the alimentary canal, is sometimes, but very rarely, a cause of this disease (see Bile); a sedentary life and dejection of spirits dispose the body to this disorder.

TREATMENT.—The cure will of course depend on the removal of the impediment to the free passage of the bile through the biliary duct; but before the accomplishment of this object is attempted, it is often necessary to palliate distressing or urgent symptoms. The violent paroxysm of pain should be relieved by twenty drops of laudanum, No. 18, occasionally repeated. The deficiency of bile in the alimentary canal, may be, in some measure, supplied, by taking three table-spoonfuls of the following mixture, an hour before each meal:

Take of Infusion of Columbo, six ounces,
Salt of Wormwood, one drachm,
Aloetic Wine, one ounce. Mix.

When it arises from spasms or biliary concretions, the loss of blood from the arm will afford considerable relief, and should not be omitted in a plethoric habit.

When the cause is concretions, plugging up the biliary duct, the indication of cure is the dissolution of the concretion, or to facilitate its passage to the intestines, by relaxing and agitating means. The solution of biliary con-

cretions is extremely difficult, even out of the body, and of course must be much more so when lodged in the gall bladder, or duct.

Dr. John Camplin, an able physician, in Monmouthshire, found doses of æther to answer this purpose, and I have certainly witnessed its good effects in several cases, but whether from its solvent powers, as the Doctor supposes, or as an antispasmodic, I cannot take upon me to determine.

For the purpose of relaxing the biliary duct, laudanum, the loss of blood, the warm bath, and nauseating doses of the tartarised antimony wine, No. 14, will succeed best; and the agitation of the parts, which certainly accelerates its expulsion into the intestines, is best effected by the emetic powder, No. 77, active purgatives of calomel and jalop, and exercise. During the employment of these means, the want of the bile in the alimentary canal should be supplied, by the use of the mixture of columbo, recommended above.

When the disease is produced by the pressure of a scirrhous tumor, the remedies to be depended on is the hemlock, combined with mercury, in the following proportions, and the use of distilled water as recommended for the cure of cancer.

Take of Powdered Hemlock, one drachm,

Prepared Calomel, two scruples,
Conserve of Hips, sufficient to form a mass, to be divided into forty pills.

One to be taken three times a day, with a dose of alkaline mixture of columbo, already prescribed.

The diet should be regulated according to the constitution of the patient, in cases of scirrhosity, the strength should be supported; and if the disease is produced by calculi, the diet should be low, particularly if the patient be plethoric or feverish. But as vegetables are apt to generate a troublesome degree of flatulency and acidity in the stomach, the patient should be allowed broth and a little animal food. (See Arrow Root and Hartshorn Shavings, No. 106.)

If it arises from a redundancy of bile in the alimentary canal, which is of very rare occurrence, gentle laxative medicines, as rhubarb, castor oil, and lenitive electuary will be sufficient.

KING'S EVIL.

The Latins termed this disease scrofula, from scrofa, a hog, because it has been observed in the swine. It is named the King's Evil, in consequence of Edward the Confessor, and other succeeding Kings, both of England and France, pretending to cure it by the touch. This dis-

ease is evidently hereditary, although a generation or two may pass without its being manifested, it generally revives in the third.

Distinction.—The first external signs are hard and indolent enlargements of the glands of the neck, and behind the ears, and sometimes in the arm-pits and other parts of the body; in process of time the ligaments of the joints, and even the bones become affected, so as to form the disease termed White Swelling. The internal symptoms are a tumefaction of the glands of the mesentery, and formation of tubercles in the lungs.

Cause.—Both the nature and cause of this diaease are but little understood. Crude indigestible food, bad water, living in a damp low situation, are noticed by authors as supposed causes. Debility, which is always attendant on this disorder, is by some mentioned as capable of producing it, but this is certainly the effect instead of the cause of the disease, and is chiefly produced by the tumefaction of the mesenteric glands, preventing the nutrient part of the aliment passing into the circulation for the due support of the body.

Treatment.—A great variety of alterative medicines have been recommended as remedies

for this disease, but none have answered so well as the Peruvian bark, combined with soda, as the mixture, No. 64, with exercise and cold bathing, particularly in salt water. Madder-root is much recommended by Dr. Hugh Smith; and Dr. Osborne mentions a case of a young woman that was wonderfully benefited by it. In hardness of the glands approaching to a state of schirrosity, and when the lungs are affected, and particularly when the patient labours under a suppression of the menses, this medicine is certainly worth a trial; the best preparation is the essential extract, which may be taken in the following manner:

Take of the Essential Extract of Madder, four drachms, dissolve in a pint of
Mint Water.

Of which a wine-glassful should be taken at least three times a day.

If the patient be much debilitated, the bitter infusion may be substituted for the mint water.

Different morbid conditions existing in different parts of the body, require, with the use of internal medicines, topical management, according to circumstances, thus:—when a joint is affected, the formation of matter should be prevented, by the treatment recommended for white swellings; and when the lungs are affected with tubercles, the remedies recommended for the incipient scrophulous consumption of the

lungs will be necessary. When the glands of the neck are much tumefied, the application of sea-water will answer best, and if from their magnitude they are attended with inconvenience, the following pills may be taken for ten days, with the bark mixture and soda, already noticed.

Take of Extract of Cicuta, one drachm,
Prepared Calomel, fifteen grains. Mix, and divide into twenty pills.

One to be taken twice a day.

The topical application of leeches, a blister, or an issue, is necessary, if attended with pain and inflammation, to prevent suppuration.

LEPROSY.

The true Lepra or Leprosy, is of very rare occurrence in this country. To this head, however, are referred a great variety of cutaneous affections, appearing under various forms; these affections will, for the most part, yield to the remedies recommended for eruptions of the skin, which see.

LOCKED JAW. See Trismus.

LOOSENESS. See Diarrhœa.

LOWNESS OF SPIRITS. See Hypochondriasis.

LUES VENEREA. See Venereal Disease.

LUMBAGO.

When the rheumatism attacks the loins, it is thus termed. In cases of pains in the loins, medical advice should always be taken, for should inflammation be here mistaken for rheumatism, and, as such, treated with stimulating medicines, the consequence would be a formation of matter, constituting the disease termed the Lumbar Abscess, which generally terminates in the death of the patient. Advertised medicines for lumbago have certainly been productive of much mischief in such cases. Spirit of turpentine, diluted with an insipid expressed oil, has lately been industriously advertised under the fictitious name of Essence of Mustard, as a remedy for this disease and pain in the loins. The external and internal use of this medicine, as recommended by the proprietor, it is to be feared, has been productive of serious mischief and much human distress.

When the cause is doubtful, it should be treated by blisters over the part, and small doses of the antimonial powder, No. 42. (See Rheumatism.)

MALIGNANT SORE THROAT. See Putrid Sore Throat.

MEASLES.

This disease is highly contagious, and affects people but once in their life-time.

Description.—It generally begins with shiverings, succeeded by heat; a severe head-ach in adults, and heaviness in children; a slight inflammation and considerable heat in the eyes, attended with swelling of the eye-lids, a defluxion of acrid tears, an inability to bear the light, frequent sneezing and discharge from the nostrils; sooner or later a fever comes on, with a cough, a sense of tightness across the chest, nausea, and vomiting. About the fourth, and sometimes the fifth day, red spots, like flea-bites, begin to appear on the forehead, and other parts of the face, and successively on the lower parts of the body, which increase, run together, and form large red spots, of different figures. The spots on the face sometimes appear a little prominent to the touch; but, on other parts, do not rise higher than the surface of the skin. On the third day of the eruption, the vivid redness is changed to a brownish red, and in a day or two more, entirely disappears, succeeded by a mealy scaling of the scarf skin, and sometimes a difficulty of breathing, dry cough, pains in the chest, and fever; which, in scrophulous habits, often terminate in consumption.

Cause.—The measles are occasioned by a specific contagion, the nature of which is not understood.

TREATMENT.—If the symptoms are mild, the occassional use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, or an infusion of senna leaves with the neutral salt, No. 2, and ten or fifteen drops of the tartarized antimony wine, No. 14, at bed time, a low diet, and a warm room, will be sufficient. If the fever and affection of the lungs are, however, considerable, the loss of blood, a blister over the breast bone; and the cough mixture, No. 55, will likewise be absolutely necessary, and should not be delayed. Barley water, acidulated with lemon juice, or sweetened by boiling with the barley a little liquorice root, should be taken plentifully. If, after these means, the cough, difficulty of breathing, and pain in the chest, should continue, another blister should be applied between the shoulders, and the discharge of both kept up by dressings of savin ointment, No. 48. If looseness should come on, it should not be checked, unless it be violent, and even in that case not suddenly. Five grains of rhubard, with two of ipecacuanha powder, will in general, for this purpose, be sufficient. After the spots have disappeared, the patient should not be too hastily exposed to the cold.

The diet should be low, in proportion to the degree of fever. Barley-water, in which a little liquorice root has been boiled, and vegetable jellys, as arrow root, tapioca, sago, &c. will in

general be sufficient, till the feverish symptoms are evidently on the decline.

When the measles recede, blisters over the chest, the warm bath and gentle emetics of ipecacuanha are the most powerful remedies that can be employed for its re-expulsion, but as such cases are always attended with imminent danger, the timely advice of a practitioner in medicine, should not be neglected.

Dr. Buchan observes, that the measles have great affinity to the small-pox. They are however, as distinct as any two diseases can possibly be.

If symptoms of putrid fever should come on, it will require the same treatment as directed for that disease. (See Typhus.)

Attempts have been made to communicate the measles by inoculation, but I do not believe it ever succeeded, nor could any advantage have resulted from the practice.

MELANCHOLY,

Is a partial insanity, so nearly allied to that diseased state of imagination termed hypochondriasis, as to require a similar mode of treatment. Dr. Cullen, in his first lines of the practice of physic, observes, that he is at a loss to determine how, in all cases hypochondriasis and melancholy may be distinguished from one another, whilst the same temperament is common

to both. The distinction may be generally ascertained in the following manner: the hypochondriasis is always attended with symptoms of indigestion, and though there may be at the same time an anxious melancholic fear arising from the feeling of these symptoms, yet while this fear is only a mistaken judgment, with respect to the state of the person's own health, and to the danger to be from thence apprehended, I would still consider the disease as a hypochondriasis, and as distinct from the proper melancholy; but when an anxious fear and despondency arise from a mistaken judgment, with respect to other circumstances than those of health, and more especially when the person is at the same time without any symptom of indigestion, it constitutes the disease strictly named melancholy; but as a true melancholic temperament may induce a torpor and indolence in the action of the stomach, so it generally produces some symptoms of indigestion, and hence there may be some difficulty in distinguishing such a case from hypochondriasis. When the characters of the temperament are strongly marked, and more particularly when the false imagination turns upon other subjects than that of health, or when though relative to the person's own body, it is of a groundless and absurd kind, then, notwithstanding the appearance of some symptoms of indigestion, the case is still to be considered as that

of melancholy rather than hypochondriasis; these distinctions, however, bear no reference to any difference of treatment; but, with respect to the unfortunate state of mind, the same means must be pursued as already directed for the hypochondriasis.

MENSTRUATION; also termed MENSIS, AND CATAMENIA.

Is a natural secretion of a blood-like appearance from the womb, so named from its occurring once in the course of a month. This periodical discharge appears to be for the purpose of keeping up sanguification, or the making of blood, and a determination thereof to the womb, for gestation, or the nourishment of the fœtus during pregnancy.

From its not appearing at a proper period of life, from irregularity after it has taken place, from too great a secretion, termed flooding, and at the time of its cessation, many derangements of the system are produced, all of which I shall consider under this head.

The interruption of the menstrual secretion may be considered of two kinds—the one when the menses do not begin to flow at that period of life in which they usually appear, which is termed *chlorosis*, or green sickness—and the other, after they have repeatedly taken place for some time, they do, from other causes than conception, cease

to return at the usual periods, which I shall con-consider under the head of *suppression* of the menses. And first of the

Chlorosis, or Green Sickness.

The period of menstruation is so different in different constitutions, that no time can be precisely assigned as proper to the sex in general. In this country it usually appears about the age of fifteen, but in many more early, and in others not till eighteen, without any disorder being thereby occasioned. It is therefore only to be considered as a disease when some disorders arise in the body, which may be imputed to its retention, and which are known from experience to be removed by the flowing of the menses. These disorders are a sluggishness and frequent sense of lassitude and debility, and the various symptoms of indigestion, and sometimes a preternatural appetite, as the longing for chalk, lime, charcoal, &c. The face loses its vivid colour, becomes pale or sometimes of a yellowish hue, the body pale and flaccid, and the feet, and sometimes great part of the body, affected with a kind of dropsical swellings. The breathing is hurried by any quick or laborious motion of the body, and the heart is liable to palpitation and fainting. A head-ach sometimes

occurs, but more certainly pains in the back, loins, and haunches.

Causes.—It arises from the want of due force in the action of the arteries of the womb, or some preternatural resistance in their extremities.

Treatment.—The strength of the system should be restored by exercise, and, in the beginning of the disease, by cold bathing, and the use of tonics, combined with such medicines that are known to produce a determination to the womb, and remove glandular obstructions, as the following pills:

Take of the Ecphractic Pill of the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, two drachms,
Oil of Caraway Seeds, six drops,
Prepared Calomel, ten grains,

Mix well together, and divide into thirty pills, two to be taken twice a day: the dose should be increased, diminished, or repeated, so as to produce not less than one, or more than two motions in twenty-four hours.

If the smallest dose should exceed this operation, they should be only used as an occasional aperient medicine, to obviate costiveness, and three table-spoonfuls of the following mixture taken three times a day:

Take of the Extract of Madder Root, two drachms,
Muriated Tincture of Steel, forty drops,
Compound Tincture of Gentian, two drachms,
Mint Water, eight ounces. Mix.

If the extract of madder cannot be procured, eight ounces of strong decoction of the root may be substituted for it and the mint water.

The madder succeeded so well, in those cases, in the practice of professor Home, at Edinburgh, as to induce that able physician to consider it the strongest and safest remedy with which we are acquainted.

Electricity has been employed as a stimulus in those cases, and a gentle shock passed through the region of the womb, has in a number of instances succeeded.

Exercise, particularly that of dancing, is an indispensible auxiliary to the use of medicine.

If the patient should suffer much pain in the head, the feet should be put in warm water every night, and a few ounces of blood extracted from a vein in the foot, if the pulse be full, or if the patient complains of difficulty of breathing, and a sense of tightness across the chest. (See the species of consumption termed Phthisis Chlorotica.)

If the habit be tainted with scrophula, in ad-

dition to the above remedies, the use of distilled water will be absolutely necessary, as recommended for scrophula, and if accompanied with cough, and an evident disposition to consumption, the mode of treatment recommended for the *incipient scrophulous* consumption should be adopted, and the steel medicines omitted. The feet should in all cases be kept warm by wearing flannel socks.

Matrimony is considered a specific in those cases by Dr. Cullen, and our first medical authors.

These remedies are adapted to the cure of the retention of the menses termed chlorosis, or green sickness. I shall now proceed to consider the

Suppression of the Menses.

In entering upon which I must observe that every interruption of the menses after it has once taken place is not to be considered as a case of suppression, for the discharge on the first appearance is not always immediately established in its regular course, and therefore if any interruption happen soon after its first appearance, or even in the course of the first or second year it may often be considered as a case of the retention termed chlorosis, or green sickness, especially if attended with the symptoms peculiar to that state. The cases, therefore, of suppres-

sion, are such as occur after the flux has for some time been established in its regular course, and in which the interruption cannot be referred to the causes of the retention termed chlorosis, but must be imputed to some resistance in the extremities of the vessels of the womb, induced by cold, fear, and other causes, which may produce a constriction of these extreme vessels. There are, however, some cases, which depend on general weakness of the system, and consequently of the vessels of the womb, but in such cases the suppression always appears as symptomatic of other affections, on the removal of which its recurrence depends.

A suppression of this periodical discharge seldom continues long without being attended with various symptoms of disorders in different parts of the body, arising from the blood, being determined to other parts instead of the womb, and often with such force as to rupture a blood vessel; hence bleeding from the nose, lungs, stomach, and other parts, are often produced: besides which the patient is commonly affected with hysteric fits, and the long train of symptoms of indigestion.

Treatment.—Warm bathing, particularly to the region of the womb, by removing the constriction of the vessels is to be considered the most powerful remedy.

A costive state of the bowels should be removed by the occasional use of such medicines, which will at the same time produce a determination of blood towards the womb, as the following pills:

Take of the Colocynth Pill, with Aloes, one drachm,
Compound Pill of Galbanum, half a drachm,
Prepared Calomel, fifteen grains.

After being well mixed, divide into thirty pills; three of which are to be taken occasionally.

In case of violent head-ach, or much cough, the loss of a few ounces of blood, according to the strength of the patient, or symptoms of plethora, will likewise be proper.

The Peruvian bark, steel, and other astringents recommended by Dr. Buchan, with a view of strengthening the system, by increasing the constriction of the vessels of the uterus, often do much harm. The feet should be put every night in warm water for ten minutes, and kept warm during the day-time by the use of thick flannel socks. The diet must be regulated according to the symptoms of plethora and debility. If the patient does not suffer much from local distention of the vessels, as head-ach, oppression of breath, &c. it should be of the nutritious kind, but not stimulating; wine, particularly port, and

spirits, should be avoided. Exercise, in this case, is of greater consequence than medicine, as it will obviate plethora, amuse the mind, and promote digestion—but, if attended with symptoms of plenitude of the vessels, local or general, a low diet should be strictly observed, and all stimulants avoided, which might, by producing an afflux of blood to the head or lungs, produce a rupture of a blood-vessel, which might terminate in the death of the patient; where, therefore, the local symptoms run high, or the general health is much disturbed, the opinion of a physician of eminence should be taken, before the case is too far advanced to admit of relief.

The advertised remedies for obstruction of menses are very numerous. Hooper's pills have long been employed for this purpose, and I believe them to be a good remedy for the retention of the menses, termed chlorosis; but they cannot be applicable to all cases of suppression.—For chlorosis or green sickness, it is but justice to the proprietors to observe, that they are a cheap and good medicine, and, in neither price or composition, can be considered an imposition.

The most unwarrantable liberties are taken, by designing quacks, with the names of physicians of the first characters, after their dissolution, for the purpose of attracting the notice of the ignorant, and the more effectually to impose their trash on the credulous public; and

thus we find the names of practitioners who, during their life-times, were justly considered ornaments to the profession, handed down to posterity on the ignominious list of empirics annexed to the act of parliament for regulating the duties on quack medicines, which future ages will, no doubt, consider on a par with the Newgate Calendar.

It is much to be lamented that the relations of the late Dr. Hunter, Dr. Hugh Smith, Dr. Fothergil, &c. should suffer their names to appear in the public prints, in the support of such vile traffic.

Having considered the two kinds of interruption of the menstrual discharge, I shall now proceed to the consideration of the increased quantity termed

Flooding,

as unconnected with a state of pregnancy or lying-in. The flow of the menses is considered immoderate when it recurs more frequently *, when it continues longer, or when, during the ordinary continuance †, it is more abundant ‡ than is usual with the same per-

* The usual period is from twenty-seven to thirty days.

† The time of its continuance is various in different women. It seldom continues longer than six days, or shorter than two. In general, women of a lax and delicate constitution have a more copious and a longer continued discharge than the robust.

‡ It is extremely difficult to ascertain, precisely, what quantity is usually discharged; but women themselves can generally

son at other times. It is not, however, every inequality that is to be considered a disease, but only those deviations that are excessive in degree, which are permanent, and induce a manifest state of debility.

When a larger flow of the menses has been preceded by head-ach, giddiness, or difficulty of breathing, and has been ushered in by a cold shivering, and is attended with much pain in the back and loins, with a frequent pulse, heat, and thirst, it may then be considered preternaturally large, and, in consequence of a repetition, the face becomes pale, the pulse weak, an unusual weakness is felt on exercise, the breathing is hurried by much motion, and the back becomes pained from continuance in an erect posture, when the extremities become frequently cold, and when, in the evening, the feet are affected with a kind of dropsical swellings, termed œdematous, we may, from these symptoms, certainly conclude that the flow of the menses has been immoderate, and has already induced a dangerous degree of weakness of the system, which is often attended with palpitation of the heart, affections of the stomach, frequent faintings, and a weakness of mind, liable to

inform the physician, with sufficient exactness for regulating the practice, whether he discharge be immoderate: the average quantity is supposed to be about five ounces.

strong emotions from slight causes, especially when suddenly presented.

Causes.—It is produced by a preternatural determination of blood to the womb, or a plethoric state of the body, such as a nourishing diet, strong liquors, and frequent intoxication; violent straining, exercise, particularly in dancing and violent passions of the mind, violent straining at stool, cold applied to the feet, frequent abortions, or child-bearing, and whatever will induce general laxity, as living much in warm chambers, and especially drinking much of warm enervating liquors, such as tea and coffee.

Treatment.—When a copious menstruation has come on, it should be moderated as much as possible, by abstaining from all exercise either at the coming on or during the continuance of the menstruation, by avoiding even an erect posture as much as possible, by shunning external heat, as warm chambers and soft beds, by using as light and as cool a diet as former habits will allow, by obviating costiveness, by the use of laxatives that will give little stimulus, as castor oil, and lenitive electuary; the external and internal use of astringents to constringe the vessels of the womb, as the applica-

tion of cloths sprinkled with vinegar to the region of the womb, and three table-spoonfuls of the following mixture every four hours:

Take of Red Rose Leaves, dried, half an ounce, infuse in a pint and half of boiling water, till cold, then strain it, and add
Acid Elixir of Vitriol, thirty drops,
The Simple Tincture of Cinnamon, one ounce.

If the discharge should, notwithstanding, continue immoderate, a gentle emetic dose of ipecacuanha should be given, and a cold infusion of roses only, injected up the vagina; but these should not be employed without the sanction of a medical practitioner.

Prevention.—When flooding arises from laxity of the system or the vessels of the womb, or if the discharge has induced much debility in the system, it will be proper, during the intervals of menstruation, to employ cold bathing and tonic medicines, as the infusion of roses, with elixir of vitriol and tincture of cinnamon, as above directed. The occasional cause should, in all cases, be particularly avoided, as by these means only the disease is to be prevented. From inattention to such causes, and moderating the discharge in the first beginning of the disease,

it at length becomes violent, and of difficult cure.

In cases of flooding attendant on miscarriages, or lying-in women, the patient should be kept as quiet as possible, till medical assistance can be procured. If it should be very considerable, a cloth wetted with vinegar may be applied to the loins.

When flooding occurs during labour, the life of the woman should be considered in such imminent danger, that a moment should not be lost in obtaining the assistance of an able man-midwife.

The most critical period of a woman's life is, when the menstrual discharge is about to cease, termed the *turn of life*, which occurs between the 40th and 50th year of her age, generally about the 50th; and if this period is passed over without affecting her general health, her life may be considered very good; but in general the entire cessation is succeeded by a determination of blood to the head, producing apoplexy; or to the lungs or bowels. At this period a woman should be very particular in avoiding a plethoric state, by moderate exercise and diet, and the occasional use of aperient medicines, of which, aloes will answer best. If she should be attacked with violent head-ach and giddiness, she should lose blood from the arm;

and if disposed to apoplexy, an issue in the neck, the use of thick flannel to the soles of the feet, aloetic purges, spare diet, and exercise, are the most powerful preventives.

The discharge from the womb or vagina, termed fluor albus, or whites, is considered in its alphabetical order.

MUMPS.

This disease has been little taken notice of by medical writers. It is often epidemic, and evidently contagious.

Description.—It generally comes on with cold shiverings, sickness, vomiting, pain in the head, and other febrile symptoms; soon after attended with a considerable tumor in the neck, at the corner of the lower jaw; sometimes only on one side, but more frequently on both. It increases till the fourth day, and from that period it declines, and in a few days goes off entirely.

Treatment.—This disease commonly runs its course, without either dangerous or troublesome symptoms; so that a low diet, and the occasional use of the neutral salts, No. 2. or aperient mixture, No. 51. will prove sufficient.

If, however, the swelling should be considerable, and the fever run high, with pain in the head, the loss of blood, a blister to the nape of the neck, and the saline mixture, No. 67, will be necessary.

NERVOUS DISEASES.

In domestic medicine, the appellation of nervous diseases has been much too vaguely applied. In one sense, every disease that assails the human frame may be termed nervous, inasmuch as the nervous system is, in all, more or less, affected by sympathy; but, in the professional acceptation of the word, it signifies a class of diseases in which the nervous system is primarily or principally affected. Thus Dr. Cullen, and other physicians, who are celebrated for their classification of diseases, comprehend under this title all those morbid affections which consist either in the interruption and debility of the powers of sense or motion, or in the irregularity with which these powers are exercised, and which are arranged under four orders, viz. First—Such as consist in *the loss of voluntary motion*, as apoplexy and palsy. Secondly—In *a weakness or loss of motion in either the vital or natural functions*, as fainting, hypochondriasis, &c. Thirdly—*Spasmodic affections without fever*,

as epileptic fits, St. Vitus's dance, locked jaw, asthma, hooping cough, &c. And fourthly—*Disorder of the intellectual functions*, as insanity. Hence the term nervous embraces a great variety of diseases, remote in their causes and nature; some arising from an *increased* excitement, and others from a diminished one; and again, even such *increased* excitement may depend on *debility*, and a *diminished* excitement, in consequence of compression of the brain from *plethora.*

Medical practitioners often make use of the term nervous to their patients, to account for sensations they may notice in detailing their various symptoms, which I believe has given rise to the present general loose and inaccurate application of the word.

Quack doctors, however, artfully refer all the diseases of the body to a morbid state of the nervous system, in order to impose their *nervous* cordials on the credulous public. In their public addresses they enumerate a long train of *symptoms* classed as primary diseases, and although diametrically opposite in their nature, the unfortunate sufferers (with whom they apparently so much sympathize,) are assured, that, by the use of their cordials, they will be most certainly healed; hence the hypochondriac falls an easy prey to the allurement; and, unfortunately, this class of people are but too numerous to support this illicit practice; and, if empiricism is at all to

be justified, it is certainly in such lamentable cases of diseased imaginations; but their nostrums are too often taken in cases in which they are a slow but certain poison, and therefore should not be allowed in a country in which medicine has been so successfully cultivated.

That eminent and philanthropic physician, Dr. Hamilton, of Edinburgh, observes, in his popular Treatise on the Management of Female Complaints: "Many shocking cases have occurred within the observations of the author of this work, where women have neglected pursuing, with steadiness, the suggestions of regular practitioners, in consequence of the false confidence they were induced to place in the dishonest promises of the discoveries of nostrums. A simple recital of the agony of such women, previous to death, might appear incredible. The interference of the legislature, in checking this species of robbery, is certainly required, since not only money is stolen, but also life is destroyed, and that in a way of torture, too, which the severity of the law has never yet exercised on the most flagitious criminals." Foi. 68.

A gingerbread-baker at Bungay, in Suffolk, who was in the habit of attending all the fairs in that neighbourhood for the purpose of selling gingerbread nuts, and amusing the people with music, which he played to attract them to his stall, his poney being affected with a cough, a

person at Brundick, in the same county, advised him to give the animal a mixture of vinegar and honey, which, in a short time, had the desired effect of restoring his donkey to health.

The baker, reasoning on this rapid cure wrought on the animal, concluded that it might produce as salutary an effect on the human body; he therefore determined to give it a trial, under the name of the Vegetable Balsam, and commenced advertising it at a guinea per bottle, as a specific for consumption of the lungs, &c. &c. and, strange to relate, the efficacy of this medicine (merely simple oxymel,) was soon attested by people, from whose elevated situation in life one might have supposed would have known better. He soon gave up gingerbread baking and fidling, for the more lucrative, but less honourable pursuit of selling honey and vinegar at a guinea a pint, by which he amassed a very considerable fortune, which soon raised him to the distinguished honour of a Doctor of Physic, although perfectly ignorant of pharmacy, anatomy, and diseases, a knowledge of which one might have supposed would have been deemed necessary by the legislature to form such a character.

The great success that has crowned the efforts of this empiric has, it appears, laudably stimulated the emulation of jew pedlars to be elevated to this academical honour of M. D.; and, by

puffing off their nervous cordials in the public papers, succeeded in inducing a number of hypochondriacs to become purchasers, at such an exorbitant rate, as soon to qualify them to graduate at the Mareschal College, Aberdeen, without ever undergoing the partial examination of Dr. Last. A gilder and frame-maker, in Long Acre, and a shoe-maker in Blackfriars Road, have likewise resigned their occupations, for that of patching up the human frame; and what is still more extraordinary, this list of impostors has lately been embellished with the name of a clergyman, whose celebrity will no doubt be transmitted to Aberdeen, with the *necessary* qualifications.

Injurious as the practice of those impostors must be to the community, their publications are no less so, by corrupting the morals of youth more than the most obscene work that ever appeared in the English language. Their doctrines on the phenomena of nervous excitement, and affections of the spinal marrow, are the most absurd and ridiculous that ever were broached in a civilized country, and cannot be for any other purpose than to mislead unguarded youth, by whom, on account of their obscenity, they are more read than by invalids.

"It is really lamentable," says Mr. Corry, in his Detector of Quackery, "that his Majesty's Attorney General is not informed of these

indecent publications (the Guide to Old Age, and the Guide to Health); perhaps the time is approaching when he may take cognizance of these *moral essays*, and there can be little doubt but that the sage and beneficent authors will be amply rewarded. Whoever publishes an obscene pamphlet, is liable to fine, imprisonment and the pillory. How much greater then should the punishment be for such as endeavour to poison the health and morals of a people, by the propagation of falsehood and imposture."

Valetudinarians often voluntarily suffer more pain than ever was inflicted by the Inquistion. By swallowing every medicine which ignorant friends, or artful quacks recommend, these wretched dupes, instead of disarming disease only render it more formidale. Three fourths of the diseases of the people of London are ideal; and many persons contribute to the support of the physician, and pay him liberally for regular attendance, while they labour, not under bodily indisposition, but, a *mind diseased.* Many an athletic hypochondriac, whose sanity would be restored in a few days by exercise, now imagines himself at the point of death, though he will probably outlive his physician.

The revelling and excess of these unhappy beings, have produced in them such a relaxation of nerves, and imbecility of mind, that they tremble at the momentary gloom occasioned by

every passing cloud, the sight of a hearse fills them with horror, and the mournful knell thrills through every fibre.

Since the observations published in the last edition of the work on Empirical Practices, I am happy to observe that the proprietors of the most respectable public prints in the metropolis have excluded their advertisements, when they have the least immoral tendency.

To those who are not competent to detect the practice of impostors, and discriminate between imaginary and real disease, I recommend the perusal of Dr. Falconer's admirable Dissertation on the Passions, Corry's Detector of Quackery, and Locke on the Human Understanding.

NETTLE RASH,

Description.—Is so named, from the resemblance of its eruption to that made by the stinging of nettles. It is a very mild disease, and seldom requires the use of medicines. When it is attended with fever, small doses of either of the neutral salts, No. 2, or the aperient mixture, No. 51, with twenty drops of the antimonial wine, No. 14, at bed-time, and a low diet, will be sufficient; and if it be of a chronic nature, twelve drops of elixir of vitriol, No. 16, may be taken three times a day, in a

wine glassful of cold camomile tea, or the aperient sulphurous water recommended under the head of Rochelle Salts, No. 2.

NIGHT MARE.

Description.—This complaint always happens during sleep. It comes on with a sense of great weight on the chest, with horror of mind: sometimes the patient imagines he sees spectres of various shapes, which oppress and threaten him with suffocation; sometimes the uneasiness continues after he awakes, so as to prevent his turning or moving in bed. The plethoric, short-necked, those predisposed to apoplexy, and the sedentary, are most subject to this disease.

Cause.—It is produced by partial pressure on the brain, from distention of the vessels, occasioned by whatever may obstruct the free return of blood from, or increase its afflux into the head; as lying on the back, with the head low, a ligature round the neck, the pressure of a distended stomach, by a full meal or flatulency, intense application of the mind, &c.

Treatment.—If the patient be of a sanguine habit, the loss of blood will be proper,

with the use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, and a spare diet, due exercise during the day, a light supper, keeping the feet warm by wearing flannel socks, and obviating costiveness, by the occasional use of the cathartic extract, No. 112, will prevent its recurrence.

When it arises from indigestion, a little ground ginger, taken in the beverage at supper, will prove an excellent preventive.

PALPITATION OF THE HEART.

This affection is sometimes so violent as to be heard at a considerable distance, and sometimes its motions may be perceived on the outside of the cloaths.

When it arises from plethora, the loss of blood, and the use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, are necessary; when from spasmodic affections of the nervous system, æther, No. 12, with tincture of castor and Valerian tea, will prove serviceable; when it proceeds from mal-formation, or disease in the heart itself, or of some of the large vessels, relief may be obtained by avoiding plethora, much bodily exertion, full meals, and excess of every kind, with the use of medicines calculated to allay nervous irritability, as camphor, Valerian, laudanum and æther.

If the action of the heart be very violent, from ten to twenty drops of the tincture of fox-glove may be taken two or three times a day in three table-spoonfuls of the saline mixture, and a blister applied on the left side.

This affection is sometimes symptomatic of water in the pericardium, which generally occurs in aged people, when small doses of calomel, about two grains at night, and twenty drops of muriated tincture of steel, in a glass of water three times a day, and the jolting of a carriage will be the most beneficial.

This disease is often the consequence of the communication between the two auricles of the heart, which exist during the fœtal state, remaining unclosed; such a case will only admit of palliative means, such as the avoiding plethora, full diet, violent exercise, and agitation of the mind, with the occasional loss of blood.

PALSY.

Description.—Is a loss of tone and vital powers, sometimes of the whole body; more frequently of one side, rarely the lower extremities from the loins, and sometimes confined to a muscle, or nerve, as of the bladder and anus, suffering the urine and stools to pass off invo-

luntarily, sometimes the muscles of the tongue, occasioning stammering and loss of speech, sometimes of the optic nerve, producing the disease called *gutta serena*, or imperfect vision, and sometimes the nerve of the ear, producing deafness. In violent cases, where one half of the body is affected, the speech is much impeded, or totally lost; convulsions often take place on the sound side, with spasms of the muscles of the face, occasioning a kind of grin, or involuntary laughter. The paralytic part gradually decays, shrivels up, feels much colder than any other part of the body, and with a weaker action of the arteries.

Causes.—Palsy is produced by compression, obstructing the flow of the nervous power from tbe brain into the organs of motion, or the application of poisons, which render the nervous powers unfit to flow in the usual manner. The compression may be from distention of blood vessels, effusion of blood or serum, or from tumors. Of the poisonous causes, lead is the chief. It is often produced by the division of a principal nerve; and sometimes, but very rarely, it is the consequence of extreme debility.

Treatment.—When it is produced by compression of the brain, from distention or effusion, the paralytic numbnes is only symptomatic of

apoplexy, and as such should be treated (see apoplexy). If, however, the palsy should continue after the compression of the brain is evidently removed by the means there recommended, it should be treated as local palsy, by external stimulants, as friction with flannels, or mustard-flour and blisters. Electricity, so much recommended for paralytic affections, from its stimulating effects on the brain and sanguiferous system, is a dangerous remedy, and may, by producing a determination of blood to the head, occasion a fatal relapse of the primary affection, viz. apoplexy. The organs of digestion should be invigorated by such stimulating medicines that will not, at the same time, increase the action of the heart and arteries: for this purpose, a tea-spoonful of the *farina* of the Jamaica ginger may be taken, twice or thrice a day, or a pill of two grains of capsicum. The peristaltic motion of the bowels should be kept up by taking five or ten grains of the aromatic pill, twice a day, so as to produce one stool in twenty-four hours. A seton in the neck, particularly if the patient is ever affected with giddiness, will afford considerable relief, and should not be neglected. The diet should be nutritious, but in moderate quantities, and flannel worn next the skin. If it arises from the compression of a tumor, its removal, if practicable, is first necessary; the part afterwards will be

easily recovered by local stimulants. If curvature or disease in the back bone, compressing the spinal marrow, is the cause, a perpetual blister, an issue, or seton, over the part affected, or on each side of the diseased portion of the bone, is the only remedy. If it is confined to a muscle, electricity and a blister should be applied as near to the part as possible. If poison be the cause, the part affected should be stimulated by electric sparks, mustard poultices, and the mixture, No. 63, or 60, taken as there specified.

PHRENZY. See Inflammation of the Brain.

PILES.

DESCRIPTION.—A discharge of blood from one or more tumors, sometimes external, and sometimes within the verge of the anus. When attended with no discharge, they are termed *blind piles*, and when the discharge is only the serous part of the blood, *white piles*. This disease, at first, is entirely local; but from frequent occurrence, the constitution becomes so habituated to the discharge, as at length to be established a disease of the system, in which case it is preceded by head-ach, stupor, giddiness, and other symptoms of fever, with a sense of tightness or fullness, heat and itching about

the anus, or otherwise symptoms of indigestion, as flatulency, acidity in the stomach, often attended with spasms. When inflammation of the tumors run high, it often ends in the formation of matter, and thus produces the sinous ulcer, termed fistula.

CAUSES.—This disease may be occasioned by any thing that interrupts the free return of blood from the rectum, most commonly the pressure of hard fæces, an impregnated and enlarged womb; thus it frequently happens to those who are habitually costive. It is often produced by irritation; hence aloes, or the *justly-famous* Scotch Pills, as they are termed, are calculated to produce this disease, from their stimulating effects on the rectum. By their use the constitution is not only habituated to this unpleasant affection, but from the irritation they keep up in the neighbourhood of the anus, excrescences frequently arise, which I have known to prove so troublesome to many ladies, as to render them unable to sit half an hour at a time, until they were relieved by a surgical operation. The piles are sometimes the effect of relaxation.

TREATMENT.—When costiveness is the cause, the electuary for the piles, No. 74, or the aperient sulphurous water, noticed under the head

of Rochelle salts, No. 2, should be taken as there specified; after the due operation of either of these medicines, the parts should be anointed with the ointment, No. 94. In case of much inflammation, general bleeding, and the application of leeches to the part, will be necessary to prevent the formation of fistulous ulcers; and the patient should keep an horizontal position, and strictly observe a low diet. If irritation be the cause, the same mode of treatment should be pursued, with the occasional use of laudanum, No. 18. And if the consequence of relaxation, the tonic mixture, No. 66, and the application of a decoction of oak bark, (made by boiling half an ounce of the bark in a pint of water, for about ten minutes,) should be applied to the part frequently. Cold topical applications should be employed with great caution, as apoplexy has followed their sudden repulsion.

If the discharge of blood, in either case, should be considerable, the patient should be kept very quiet, in a reclining position, and use a cold diet, and avoid stimulants and external heat.

When the piles are become, from habit, a constitutional disease, and the parts suffered much from its frequent occurrence, stimulants, as pepper, and ginger, taken with the aliment, often afford considerable relief. A stimulating electuary, known by the name of Dr. Ward's

Paste, has been much puffed off, and even recommended by regular practitioners; but in irritable or inflammatory piles, it will often produce fresh mischief. The following is an exact copy of the Doctor's receipt for making this paste, as published by John Page, Esq. to whom he bequeathed his book of receipts:

Take of Elecampane Powder, two pounds,
Sweet Fennel Seed Powder, three ditto,
Black Pepper Powder, one ditto,
Purified Honey, and
Brown Sugar, of each two pounds.

The size of a nutmeg to be taken two or three times a day.

The recurrence of this disease will be best prevented by obviating costiveness, by proper management of diet, cold bathing, and general bleeding, in sanguine habits.

PLEURISY,

Is attended with the same symptoms, as inflammation of the lungs, in a slighter degree, and requires, for its cure, the same mode of treatment. (See Inflammation of the Lungs.)

PURGING, EXCESSIVE. See Diarrhœa.

PUTRID FEVER. See Typhus Fever.

PUTRID, OR MALIGNANT SORE THROAT.

DESCRIPTION.—It commonly begins with alternate chills and heats, pain and heaviness of the head, and other symptoms of fever, soon succeeded by swelling of the throat, the tonsils becoming inflamed and tumid, which spread to the neighbouring glands, with a high, florid, or bright crimson appearance of the fauces, &c. somewhat shining or glossy, soon attended with whitish, or ash-coloured spots, which increase rapidly, and terminate in ulcers, more or less superficial; the tongue becoming foul at the root, and the breath exceedingly offensive. The feverish symptoms are much aggravated towards night, and accompanied with delirium. The disease gradually grows worse; and about the third day, nausea, griping, and dysentery are produced, by the discharge from the ulcers being swallowed. There is commonly, especially with children, a partial, or general crimson efflorescence of the skin, or an eruption of small pustules, which relieves the affection of the stomach and bowels. When it appears early and kind, it is considered a favourable omen.

CAUSE.—The disease seems to be produced by a peculiar specific contagion, affecting all

ages, occuring at all seasons, and prevailing in all situations. It has been observed, like the small-pox, and measles, to affect the same individual but once in his lifetime.

TREATMENT.—This disease, like other febrile contagions, is terminated only by a natural course; the chief object, therefore, of its medical treatment, is, in the first instance, to moderate the fever, and afterwards combat unfavourable occurrences. With the first view, the emetic powder, No. 77, should be administered on its first attack, and after its due operation, the sudorific mixture, No. 52. The early application of a blister to the throat, and the use of the acidulated gargle, No. 82, will tend much to abate the local inflammation, and consequent ulceration. When the parts begin to slough, the sudorific mixture should be exchanged for the tonic mixture, No. 66, with a drachm of acid elixir of vitriol, in lieu of the sal volatile, and the detergent gargle, No. 84, used instead of the astringent. The patient should be supported with strong beef tea, and arrow root jelly, and if incapable of taking a sufficiency by the mouth, the nutrient clyster, No. 88, should be injected three times a day, by means of a syringe with a long flexible pipe, that it may be thrown higher up the bowels, than by the bladder and pipe, generally used. In case

of violent purging, the clyster, No. 85, will be proper, or forty drops of laudanum may be added to the nutrient clyster; and if the patient is not able to swallow the bark mixture, two drachms of Peruvian bark powder may likewise be added. The room should be fumigated with nitrous vapours, (see vitriolic acid, No. 109,) or if it be small, a little acetic acid, No. 111, may be evaporated, on a warm saucer. The smell of this acid will likewise much refresh the patient.

QUINSY. See Inflammation of the Throat.

RHEUMATISM.

This disease commonly occurs in autumn and spring, seldom in winter or summer, unless the vicissitudes of heat and cold are sudden and frequent. When it is attended with fever, it is called *Acute* or *Inflammatory*, and when there is no fever, *Chronic Rheumatism.*

Acute or Inflammatory Rheumatism.

Description.—Comes on with the usual symptoms of fever, accompanied with pain, swellings, and redness of the joints, generally

of the knees, hips, ankles, shoulders, elbows, and wrists, while the smaller joints of the toes and fingers seldom suffer. The violence of the fever rarely continues for more than fourteen days, although sometimes the pain keeps shifting from one joint to another, for some weeks. The attendant fever and pain are much increased in an evening, and the latter, during night, is often very acute. As the pains become fixed the fever generally abates.

Causes.—It is produced by exposure to cold, when the body is unusually warm, or by its partial application, when the other part is warm, or from a continuance of cold, as from wet cloaths.

Treatment.—The first object towards the cure of this disease, is to abate the constitutional fever; for as long as the febrile symptoms run high, all topical applications will prove of no avail. For this purpose, particularly if the patient be of a plethoric habit, general bloodletting will be proper, and afterwards the occasional exhibition of the aperient mixture, No. 51, or either of the neutral salts, No. 2, as there directed, and fifteen or twenty drops of laudanum, No. 18, and twenty drops of the tartarised antimony wine, No. 14, in a glassful of weak white-wine whey at bed time, and the

sudorific mixture, No. 52, page 63, during the day time as there specified. If the inflammation of the joints should run high, the application of six or eight leeches will be necessary. When the fever is abated, and the pains become fixed, the parts should be well rubbed with the volatile liniment, No. 92, or opodeldoc, No. 105, or a blister may be applied, if the pain and inflammation should continue violent. Electricity, so much recommended for rheumatic affections, during its inflammatory stage, generally aggravates the pain, and not unfrequently produces a return of the febrile symptoms.

In obstinate cases, the use of the warm bath once in twenty four hours, will prove a powerful auxiliary to the above remedies.

Opium, in the dose of one grain, three times a day, is much extolled by Dr. Pearson, as a certain remedy for acute rheumatism, and in general it proves very successful; but the loss of blood, and the use of aperient medicines, should be premised. Exposure to cold should be avoided, and a low diet observed.

Chronic Rheumatism.

Description.—When the febrile symptoms, together with the swelling and redness of the

joints have entirely abated, and the pain still continues to affect certain joints, with stiffnes, and uneasiness on motion, and change of weather, the disease is termed *Chronic Rheumatism*, which often continues a length of time. The joints most surrounded by muscles, and the parts that suffer much by bodily exertion, as the hip and the loins, are commonly the seats of this complaint. When it affects the hip joint, it is named *Sciatica*; and when situated in the loins, *Lumbago*.

Causes.—It arises from a loss of tone in the muscular fibres and blood-vessels of the part affected, attended with rigidity and contraction of the former, and when far advanced, with a considerable diminution of nervous energy, approaching to a state of palsy. Violent exertions and strains are often the exciting causes of lumbago.

Treatment.—The chief indication of cure of chronic rheumatism, is exactly opposite to that of the acute or inflammatory; the former being attended with an increased action of the system, and the latter with a diminished one. The energy of the part affected should be roused by topical stimulants, as electric sparks, the volatile liniment, No. 62, with friction, and the application of flannel. If these means should

prove ineffectual, a blister may be applied over the part affected; or the following stimulating plaster, recommended by the late Dr. Hugh Smith:

Take of Gum Plaster, one ounce,
Blistering Plaster, one ounce,
Gum Euphorbium, one drachm.

To be mixed with as little heat as possible, and spread on leather.

The warm or hot bath may likewise be employed with advantage.

These external applications should be assisted by the internal use of the anti-rheumatic mixture, No. 60, as there directed, to which a drachm of the essential salt of bark may be added, in case of much debility of the system; a tea-spoonful of the farina of the Jamaica ginger may likewise be taken twice a day, in a glass of cold camomile tea. The diet should be generous, and the common beverage, that kind of spirit of juniper, commonly termed Hollands, diluted with water.

The use of distilled water in every article of diet, and as the principal beverage, is much recommmended by Dr. Lambe, an experienced physician in London; and, I am well persuaded, will prove of the greatest advantage in the cure of both acute and chronic rheumatism; in the latter case, a little of the spirit of juniper, noticed above, may be added to the common drink.

A clergyman of great respectability in Bath, with an obstinate rheumatic affection of the extremities, nearly approaching to a state of palsy, derived more advantage from the use of this water, than either the Bath waters, warm bathing, and stimulating medicines; and by due perseverance in its use, he is now able to walk five or six miles with ease, after being confined to his house two or three years. An account of the effects of this water is given, page 175.

Preventive.—Cold bathing, and the use of flannel next the skin, are the most effectual means of preventing the recurrence of both chronic and acute rheumatism.

Distinction.—Rheumatism may be distinguished from gout, in not being preceded by pain in the stomach, symptoms of indigestion, and cramp of the extremities; by being seated in the larger joints, while the gout affects principally the smaller joints; occurring at an earlier period of life; not being hereditary, and in general can be traced to some obvious exciting cause, particularly the action of cold. It is, however, exceedingly difficult to distinguish rheumatic pains from those produced by deep-seated inflammation, and from such mistakes the most serious consequences often arise, particularly when seated in the loins or hip-joint;

the stimulating applications, as electricity, &c. employed for the cure of rheumatism, increasing the inflammation, and hastening suppuration, which generally terminates in the death of the patient. Such mistakes have happened even in regular practice, and through the imprudent use of quack medicines, such terminations are very frequent. That obstinate, and generally fatal disease, the lumbar abscess, begins with pains in the loins, similar to lumbago, and the only fair chance the patient has of recovery, is the prevention of the formation of matter; therefore, in all doubtful cases, the application of a blister, cupping, and the use of the following diaphoretic should be employed, instead of the stimulating plan recommended for chronic rheumatism:

Take of Camphorated Julep, No. 30, five ounces,
Mindererus's Spirit, No. 8, three ounces,
Sweet Spirit of Nitre, No. 13, three drachms. Mix.

Three table-spoonfuls to be taken every four or five hours.

Spirit of turpentine diluted with the oil of mustard has been much puffed off in the daily prints under the name of *Essence of Mustard*, as a remedy for rheumatism, &c. Spirit of turpentine has been long employed both inter-

nally and externally in cases of chronic rheumatism, but in the acute kind, it must, from the same circumstances prove highly injurious. From the admixture with oil of mustard, it derives no advantage whatever, as that oil does not contain the medicinal properties of the seed, but perfectly insipid, and may be obtained at the mustard manufactories at a much cheaper rate than any other simple expressed oil, probably on this acconnt it has been adopted. The stimulus of the mustard is of a peculiar nature, and very different to turpentine; if, therefore, a person that was desired to take the mustard seed by a physician,. and he preferred the essence of mustard from the supposition that it contained, in a pure and concentrated state, all the virtues of the mustard, which is stated to be the case, the most serious consequences might ensue, and in a court of justice a person so injured might recover heavy damages, notwithstanding the eloquence or interest of the worthy Solicitor of the Stamp Office might be exerted in behalf of the proprietor. I would put the following question to the proprietor of this medicine, or Solicitor of the Stamp Office: Suppose a person with a pleurisy should be induced to trust to this medicine from the recommendation of the proprietor, what would be the consequence? I would not hesitate to say inevitable death. In that case what recompence could he make the

poor widow and children for such an irreparable loss, and what must be his remorse of conscience!

RICKETS.

DESCRIPTION.—A disease peculiar to infancy, seldom appearing after the third year, or before the ninth month of a child's age, but generally in the intermediate space. It first shews itself by a flaccid enlargement of the head, face, and belly, while the other parts of the body diminish in bulk, except the joints of the hands, arms, knees, and feet, which become irregularly tumefied, the bones lose their solidity, so as to be incapable of supporting the body; hence those which are employed for that purpose, as the legs, thighs, and back bone, become crooked and distorted, and the child walks with more and more difficulty, till it entirely loses the use of its feet; the blood vessels of the neck are generally much distended, while those on the other parts of the body appear in a diminished or contracted state; the countenance is lively, the cheeks full, and often florid; the child more sensible than usual at the age; the sides of the chest are flattened, and the breast bone elevated, often in a point; and the ends of the ribs, like the joints above noticed, are knotty; the teeth come forward at a late period, and soon turn black and decay.

This disease seldom proves fatal, unless fever and consumption of the lungs supervene; but after the fourth or sixth year, the child gains strength, and the bones of the legs, although very crooked, often become straight as the child grows, while the distortion or curvature of the back bone frequently increases.

CAUSES.—From the frequency of this disease in marshy countries, a moist atmosphere has been noticed, by medical writers, as a pre-disposing cause. Some have attributed it to bad nursing, the use of acescent food, and whatever may tend to debilitate the body; others, with less probability, have imputed it to a scrophulous or venereal taint in the parents. From the examination of those who have died of the disease, the mesenteric glands, the liver and lungs, have been found enlarged, and the bones nearly destitute of the earthy matter, which gives them firmness and shape. It appears, therefore, that the disease, in the first instance, either arises from a depraved digestion of the food, or imperfect absorption after its due conversion into chyle, the ossific matter not being taken up into the circulation, through the tumefaction of the glands, or from weakness of the vessels destined for its deposition, or an increased action of the absorbent vessels of the bones.

TREATMENT—The earthy matter of the bones being a kind of muriate of lime, an eminent physician, some time since, proposed to supply its deficiency in this disease, by administering small doses of that medicine, so as to digest with the food; but this practice, though plausible, proved of no advantage. The most rational mode of treatment seems to consist, first, in strengthening the system; and, secondly, in restoring the parts that are vitiated, or distorted, to their proper tone and figure. For the first purpose an emetic of ipecacuanha, No. 23, should be administered, and a small dose of rhubarb powder, No. 25, or calomel, No. 27, to remove the slimy humours from the stomach and bowels. After their operation, four or five drops of the muriated tincture of steel may be given twice a day in a little distilled water.

With the same view, cold bathing should be employed every morning. The distorted or crooked bones may be restored to their proper shape, by the use of instruments, constructed so as to support and compress the distorted parts at the same time.

If feverish heat, or hectic symptoms attend the disease, five or six drops of elixir of vitriol, No. 16, should be substituted for the muriated tincture of steel, three times a day, in a little distilled water. The diet should be principally animal food, as

strong beef tea, thickened with arrow root. (See Arrow Root, No. 103.)

In case of much cough, the cold bathing, and the steel medicine, should be omitted, and the following mixture, used in lieu of them:

Take of Iceland Liverwort, one ounce: infuse in a pint of boiling water, within the heat of the fire, for six hours; then strain with pressure, and add Tincture of Squills, one drachm,
Laudanum, No. 18, ten drops,
Gum Arabic, No. 36, half an ounce.

A table spoonful to be given every two or three hours.

The general use of distilled water in every article of diet, and as the common beverage, is the most effectual remedy, in the cure of rickets, we are acquainted with. The employment of this pure water promotes digestion, corrects acidity in the stomach and intestines, and thus produces an healthy formation of chyle. It likewise removes obstructions of the mesenteric glands, alters the dark appearance of the stools, and prevents the tartarous incrustation of the teeth, so peculiar to ricketty children. This simple article, as directed page 175, with about four drops of the muriated tincture of steel twice a day, in a table-spoonful of mint water, and cold bathing every morning, will succeed after the

failure of all other remedies. If the child should be very weakly, and the legs much curved, the machine called the go-cart, I consider a good contrivance for supporting the body, till the legs are sufficiently strengthened for the purpose. The curvature of the legs should likewise be well rubbed with coarse flannel every night and morning, till the skin is rendered red by it, and in all cases, especially if the child has cough, flannel should be worn next the skin. Wine of any kind should never be given to children, even in a state of health; it produces acidity in the stomach and intestines, corrupts the chyle, tumefies the mesenteric glands, and quickens the circulation, and is therefore highly injurious when the digestive organs are weakened by disease of the system.

The Peruvian bark has been much recommended as a strengthening medicine, but instead of producing such an effect, I have uniformly found it to disagree with the bowels, and increase the difficulty of breathing. The use of issues, in cases of rickets, recommended by Dr. Buchan, is much to be doubted. The discharge cannot be beneficial, but by increasing the debility of the frame, would very likely prove injurious—they are at any rate too ambiguous a remedy for domestic medicine.

RUPTURE.

Description.—A soft compressible tumor, formed by the protrusion of some part of the bowels, generally occurring in the groin and scrotum, and sometimes at the navel, and different parts of the belly. They are technically named, from their situation and contents.

Causes.—Whatever diminishes the cavity of the belly, by forcing the bowels out of their natural situation, will produce this disorder; such as excessive laughing, sneezing, an impregnated womb, and sudden and violent exertions. The fashion of wearing the waistband of the breeches high up, and tight round the waist, by pressing down the bowels, is perhaps the cause of the unusual frequency of ruptures, in England, of late years.

Treatment.—All that can be done towards the cure of ruptures, is, to replace the prolapsed parts into the cavity of the belly, and to prevent them from slipping out again; the surgeon then has done his part, and the rest is nature's. For the purpose of retaining them in their proper situation, different bandages are employed, according to their seat. When situated in the groin, or scrotum, an instrument

termed a truss, has been generally applied; which, from its improper structure, not producing an equal pressure over the aperture, through which the bowels protrude, has been productive of much mischief, by suffering a small portion of the bowels to get between the pad and the bone, so as to become pinched or contused. To obviate such a serious occurrence, several improvements have lately been made on the common truss, which from the length and peculiar formation of the pads, and by means of regulating springs, an equal pressure is produced, and the descent of the bowels thus effectually prevented. From the elasticity of the circular spring, it is attended with no inconvenience to the patient in walking, or any kind of exercise; but, from the additional spring, the pad is not disturbed by any position of the body. These improvements have been made according to the directions of the first practitioners in surgery in London, viz. Messrs. Abernethy, Cline, Ramsden, Cooper, Roberts, &c. When the body is in an horizontal position, as during bed-time, the use of a truss is not necessary. The bowels should likewise be supported, by means of drawers, with a wide waistband, which should button as low down as possible.

Costiveness and flatulency should be guarded against, by taking, occasionally, a table-spoon ful of the bitter tincture of rhubarb, and avoid-

ing much vegetable food and fermented liquors.

When the contents of the tumor cannot be returned, and is attended with much pain in the part, or in the bowels, with nausea, vomiting, restlessness, fever, and no discharge by stool, a strangulation of the protruded parts may be suspected, and surgical aid should be resorted to without delay, as the life of the patient is endangered by approaching inflammation, and if the confined parts be not soon liberated, mortification must ensue.

ST. ANTHONY's FIRE.

The plethoric, young people, and pregnant women, are generally the subjects of this disease; and after being once affected, are very liable to future attacks.

Description.—It comes on with more or less of cold shiverings, and other symptoms of fever, the hot fit being sometimes attended with greater affection of the head, as drowsiness, confusion, and often delirium. The redness of the skin appears after the first or second, and sometimes the third day of the fever, generally on the face, gradually spreading over the neck and scalp of the head, which become turgid, and the eye-lids often so swelled as to close the

eyes entirely. The redness is attended with considerable heat, and disappears on slight pressure of the finger, quickly returning on its removal. After some time there commonly arise, sooner or later, blisters of larger or smaller sizes, containing a clear watery fluid, of so ichorous a nature as to inflame the skin it is discharged over. Sometimes the inflammation first appears on the legs, which soon become considerably tumefied. The disorder increases for two or three days, and continues at its height for two more, when it abates, and afterwards terminates in a falling off of the diseased scarf skin, in large scales; but sometimes the delirium increases, and inflammation of the brain intervenes, which, about the seventh, ninth, or eleventh day, often ends in fatal apoplexy.

Cause.—It is produced by sudden exposure to cold, particularly when the body is hot, or in a state of perspiration. Tissot observes, that the superficial inflammation of the skin is occasioned by the irritation of an acrid sharp humour, not duly discharged by perspiration.

Treatment.—When the head is not much affected, this disease is not attended with danger, and requires only the occasional use of the aperient mixture, No. 51, with twenty drops of antimonial wine, No. 14, at bed-time, in a little

weak white wine whey. The diet should be low, and the drink chiefly barley water, acidulated with tamarinds. But when the head is much affected, the feet should be put in warm water, and a blister applied to the nape of the neck. If these fail to afford relief, and the person should be of a plethoric habit, the loss of eight or ten ounces of blood from the arm will likewise be necessary. If, notwithstanding the employment of these means, the affection of the head should encrease, and the patient become delirious, the head should be shaved, and a large blister applied to the scalp. The fever attendant on this disease, especially when it occurs in autumn, is often of an ambiguous nature, and, instead of the depleting plan, may require an opposite treatment; when, therefore, it is attended with an affection of the head, medical advice should always be taken, the life of the patient being in a critical situation.

Great caution is necessary in the application of external remedies; as, by the imprudent use of repellants, inflammation of the brain may be produced. Fine oatmeal may be applied to absorb the discharge, and cabbage leaves, previously softened before the fire, or in boiling water, and stripped of the stems, in cases of much heat and dryness of the parts affected. Notwithstanding the great danger that always attends the use of external applications in this disease, empirics are

bold enough to assert, that, by the use of their lotions, it may be infallibly cured. I was some time since requested to see a patient, afflicted with this disorder, who, from the use of one of these advertised remedies, was attacked with slight inflammation of the brain; and had she continued its application one day longer, it would most assuredly have cost her her life. I took the opportunity of analyzing this *innocent* composition, as stated in the directions, which proved to be no less than a solution of corrosive sublimate of mercury.

SAINT VITUS'S DANCE.

DESCRIPTION.—A kind of convulsion, principally attacking children of both sexes, from ten to fourteen years of age*. It first shews itself by a lameness, or rather unsteadiness of one of the legs, which the patient draws after him, like an idiot; and afterwards affects the hand, on the same side, that, if a glass of liquor be put into it to drink, before the patient can get it to his mouth, he uses a great number of odd gestures; through the hand being drawn different

* Dr. Rotheram observes, that he has seen this disease in a robust man of forty-two: this patient, after various ineffectual remedies had been used, was cured by strong electrical shocks, directed through the whole body.

ways by the convulsions, he is not able to carry it in a straight line thereto; and, as soon as it hath reached his lips, he throws it suddenly into his mouth, and drinks it very hastily, as if he only meant to divert the spectator. The will of the patient seems often to yield to these convulsive motions, as to a propensity, and thereby they are often increased, while the person affected seems to be pleased with increasing the surprise and amusement which his motions occasion to the by-standers.

CAUSE.—From its generally attacking weakly subjects, it has been attributed to debility of the system. The seat of the disease is evidently in the brain and nervous system.

TREATMENT.—In the cure of this disease, an emetic of ipecacuanha, No. 23, and a dose of basilic powder, No. 29, should be premised; after their due operation, two table-spoonfuls of the following mixture should be taken, two or three times a day:

Take of Essential Salt of Bark, No. 24, one drachm; dissolve in half a pint of water, then add
Tincture of Russia Castor, three drachms,
Tincture of Valerian, six drachms,

Tincture of Lavender, half an ounce.
Mix.

If attended with pain in the head, a blister should be applied to the nape of the neck, and the feet kept warm by the use of flannel socks.

When the symptoms are abated, cold bathing, every morning, will prove of great advantage; and with the use of the muriated tincture of steel, in the dose of ten or fifteen drops, in a glass of cold valerian and camomile tea, will probably complete the cure. The dose of the basilic powder should be repeated once a week. If this treatment should fail of affording relief, the cure should be attempted in the manner directed for epilepsy.

In many cases, electricity has proved of great advantage; but, in the majority, it has certainly aggravated the symptoms; and when attended with head-ach, or plethora, should never be employed.

The electuary of tin, recommended for the tape-worm, No. 74, has been successfully prescribed by Dr. Blount, of Hereford, with the use of tonic medicines. The diet should be regulated according to the strength of the patient: If plethoric, a low diet should be observed, and wine and stumulants avoided;—on the contrary, if the body be much debilitated, a nutritious diet should be employed; but, even in

this case, wine and stimulants should be allowed with great caution. Cold bathing, if it does not alarm the mind, will prove highly beneficial, and in two instances I have known it succeed after all other means proved of no avail.

SCALD HEAD.

This disease is so well known as to render a description of it unnecessary.

TREATMENT.—The head should be shaved, or the hair cut off as short as possible, and the part affected well washed with soap-suds. After the body has been purged by small doses of the basilic powder, No. 29, the parts may be anointed, every night and morning, with the following ointment, which will effectually cure the disease:

Take of Nitrated Ointment of Mercury, one part,
Spermaceti Ointment, two parts.

Cleanliness, with a moderate diet, is the best preventive.

SCARLET FEVER.

DESCRIPTION.—It begins with chilliness and shiverings; after which the whole skin becomes covered with red spots, more numerous, larger,

and more red than those of the measles. In two or three days they disappear, succeeded by a scaling of the skin, like bran dispersed over the body, which falls off and comes again, two or three times successively.

TREATMENT.—This disease is generally so mild, as to require nothing more than a low diet, and to avoid a cold air and cold drink. If the body be costive, a dose of the aperient mixture, No. 51, or powder of rhubarb, No. 25, may be taken and repeated occasionally; and if the feverish symptoms run high, the saline mixture, No. 67, may likewise be taken every two or three hours, in the dose of a tea-cupful. The drink should be barley water, acidulated with tamarinds. If attended with much pain in the head, or stupor, a blister should be applied to the nape of the neck, and the feet immersed in warm water. When it is accompanied with more malignant symptoms, its tendency is always to the putrid kind of fever, with ulcers in the throat; then it requires the same treatment as recommended for putrid sore throat.

SCURVY.

This disease being confined to seamen, particularly in long voyages, and people shut up in

garrisons, any account of it here would be entirely superfluous. Under this head, however, have been comprised a great variety of cutaneous eruptions and foulness, very opposite in their nature to the true scurvy, which is a putrid disease, and when attended with fever, is considered as differing very little from putrid fever. (See Eruption of the Skin.)

Scurvy, like all other diseases, has its *specific remedy* most plausibly advertised in the daily prints; and, although composed of corrosive sublimate of mercury, the public are positively assured that it is perfectly free from any poisonous ingredient. This preparation of mercury, cautiously administered, is no doubt a good medicine in those diseases of the skin, generally termed scorbutic or land scurvy; but certain restraint of diet, and great care are required during its exhibition, which the patient does not think necessary, from a supposition that the medicine is as innocent as the proprietors represent it; beside, there are often certain circumstances and state of constitution that may render the use of mercury highly injurious; and there can be little doubt, but that the antiscorbutic nostrums have indirectly destroyed many lives.

SCIATICA.

When rheumatism attacks the hip joint, or

the great nerve of the thigh, it is thus termed. When attended with fever, it will require the treatment recommended for the *Acute Rheumatism*; and when fever is entirely absent, it is to be considered of the nature of *Chronic Rheumatism*, and as such treated.

SCIRRHUS. See Cancer.

SORE THROAT. See Quinsy.

SMALL POX.

This disease is highly infectious, and attacks a person only once during life. When the pustules are separate from each other, it is termed *distinct*, and when they run together, it is denominated *confluent*.

Description.—It comes on with shiverings, pain in the head, nausea, and other symptoms of fever, and sometimes, a few hours before the eruption, children are afflicted with convulsions. The eruption appears about the fourth day of the fever, first on the face, and afterwards on the neck, breast, and body. The pustules gradually enlarge, and proceed to maturation, which is completed about the eleventh day after their

first appearance, when the attendant inflammation and swelling manifestly abate, the eruption afterwards begins to dry, and scale off; and about the fifteenth day, entirely disappear. The confluent sort is generally attended with more violent symptoms than the distinct, but observes the same period of termination, &c.

CAUSE.—It is produced by a specific contagion.

TREATMENT.—The small pox, like the measles, always runs its determined course: All, therefore, that art can do, is to moderate the attendant fever, and to combat unfavourable symptoms. The great advantage of inoculation is, that precautions may be used, from the certain knowledge of the fever, which cannot be employed in due time, when received naturally. To avoid a full crop of the eruption, and to keep down the feverish symptoms, a dose of basilic powder, No. 29, should be taken soon after inoculation, and repeated every third day till the eruption appears; or if received naturally, it should be taken on the first attack of the fever, with fifteen drops of antimony wine, No. 14, at bed time. With the same view the body should be exposed to a cool air. The diet should be low, and taken cold. Barley water, acidated with tamarinds, may be taken fre-

quently. If the feverish symptoms should run high after the eruption has appeared, the basilic powder and antimonial wine should be repeated, and the saline mixture, No. 67, taken as there directed. When the pustules begin to maturate, these debilitating means should be discontinued, and the patient allowed gradually to take to his usual living; and if the crop should be considerable, and the strength of the patient much reduced, a little port wine may likewise be allowed after dinner. If symptoms of putrid fever should intervene, denoted by low fever, delirium, extreme debility, the petechial eruption, generally known by the name of *purples*, it requires the same treatment as directed for typhus.

The matter for inoculation should be taken about the ninth day of the eruption, on a lancet or needle, with which the skin of the patient to be infected need be only slightly scratched.

The small number reported to have died of this disease, in the late annual registers of the dead, since the introduction of the cow pox, is an indisputable evidence of the preventive powers of the cow pox infection. (See Cow Pox.)

SPECKS ON THE EYE. See Films.

SPITTING OF BLOOD.

It is often difficult to determine in cases of spitting of blood, the source from whence it proceeds, whether from the internal surface of the mouth itself, from the fauces, from the adjoining cavities of the nose, from the stomach, or from the lungs; it is, however, of importance to distinguish the different sources, which in most cases may be done, by attending to the following particulars, given by Dr. Cullen: When the blood proceeds from some part of the internal surface of the mouth itself, it comes out without any hawking or coughing; and generally, upon inspection of the mouth, the particular source of it becomes evident.

When blood proceeds from the fauces, or adjoining cavities of the nose, it may be brought out by hawking, and sometimes by coughing, as from the lungs, so that in this way a doubt may arise concerning its real source. A bleeding from the fauces is, however, more rare than one from the lungs, and seldom happens but to persons who have been before liable, either to bleeding at the nose, or to some evident cause of erosion; and in most cases by looking into the fauces, the blood may be perceived coming from thence.

When the blood is of a florid and frothy appearance, and brought up with more or less coughing, preceded by rigors, and other feverish symptoms, with anxiety, and a sense of tightness across the chest, there can be no doubt but that its source is from the lungs. When vomiting accompanies the throwing out of blood from the mouth, as vomiting and coughing often mutually excite each other, so they may be frequently joined, and render it doubtful, whether the blood thrown out proceeds from the lungs or the stomach; we may, however, generally decide, by considering that blood does not so frequently proceed from the lungs: that the blood proceeding from the lungs is usually of a florid colour, and mixed with a little frothy mucus only, while the blood from the stomach is commonly of a darker colour, more grumous, and mixed with the other contents of the stomach: that the coughing or vomiting, according as the one or the other first arises in the cases in which they are afterwards joined, may sometimes point out the source of the blood; and lastly, that much may be learned from the circumstances and symptoms which have preceded the discharge.

When the source is from the stomach, it is termed vomiting of blood, which is considered in its alphabetical order. When the origin is the mouth or fauces, it is of little consequence,

and may be checked by the use of the astringent gargle, and the loss of blood from the arm, if it arises from plethora. If the cause be erosion, or ulceration, or if it occurs during fever, the treatment must depend on the nature of such fever or ulceration.

What is strictly meant by spitting blood, is when the blood is discharged from a ruptured vessel in the lungs, technically termed

Hæmoptoe;

Which occurs generally from the age of 16 to 35, chiefly arising from a faulty proportion between the capacity of the vessels of the lungs, and those of the rest of the body; accordingly, it is often an hereditary disease, which implies a peculiar and faulty conformation. It likewise happens especially to persons who discover the smallest capacity of the lungs, by the narrowness of the chest, and by the prominency of their shoulders, which last is a mark of their having been long liable to a difficult respiration. It happens likewise to persons of a slender delicate make, of which a long neck is a sign; to persons of much sensibility, and irritability, and therefore of quick parts, whose bodies are generally of a delicate structure. It

likewise frequently arises from suppression of the menstrual discharge—from plethora, and violent exercise of the lungs.

TREATMENT.—The discharge of blood may be moderated by avoiding any irritation that might concur to increase it; so a low diet must be strictly observed, and external heat, and bodily exercise avoided; the air of the room should therefore be kept cool, and the drink (which should consist chiefly of barley water, acidulated with lemon juice) taken cold, and the patient not suffered to exert his voice. After the operation of a little gentle aperient menicine, as lenitive electuary, or an infusion of senna, with a little cream of tartar dissolved in it, two table-spoonfuls of the following may given, to quiet the circulation, &c.

Take of Almond Emulsion, six ounces,
Powdered Ipecacuanha, four grains,
Tincture of Foxglove, forty drops,
Syrup of White Poppies, half an ounce.
Mix.

In case of much cough, five drops of laudanum may be added to each dose of the mixture; but it must not be resorted to unless indicated by the violence of the cough.

If the pulse is not much reduced by the discharge, a few ounces of blood should be taken from the arm, and a blister applied over the

breast-bone, especially when any pain is experienced in the chest.

When the discharge has ceased, its recurrence should be prevented by the following means: The use of cooling astringent medicines, as a wine-glassful of the infusion of red rose leaves, with six drops of the diluted vitriolic acid three or four times a day—the loss of blood from the arm, on experiencing any pain in the chest, or difficulty of breathing, a seton in the side, or perpetual blister between the shoulders, or over the breast bone, flannel next the skin, avoiding much exercise, particularly of the lungs—the occasional use of aperient medicines, to obviate costiveness, and a spare diet, consisting principally of animal jellies.

If symptoms of ulceration should succeed the discharge of blood, as cough, with an expectoration of matter, &c. it constitutes that species of pulmonary consumption, termed phthisis hæmoptoica, which see.

STONE IN THE BLADDER. See Gravel.

STRANGURY.

When this complaint succeeds the application of blisters, by the extra use of diluting liquids, as barley water, with a few grains of nitre pow-

der, and a little gum Arabic, it will speedily be relieved. When it is occasioned by the pressure of an impregnated womb, costiveness should be avoided, by small doses of castor oil, and an horizontal position observed as much as possible. When attendant on the stone or gravel, it may be relieved by the means already recommended for these affections.

It is often produced by the imprudent use of astringent or irritating injections, in the treatment of gonorrhœa, which is noticed under the head of that disease.

SWEATING, PROFUSE.

Excessive perspiration attendant on inflammatory fevers, or internal inflammation, as pleurisy, &c. should always be considered salutary. If evidently the consequence of debility or relaxation of the system, the elixir of vitriol, No. 16, will prove the best remedy.

In all cases of perspiration, it is of great importance to determine whether it be really a disease or an effort of nature to expel any morbific matter from the system, or to relieve it of plethora, which often requires an experienced practitioner to decide; even the colliquative sweats attendant on hectic fever, are to be suppressed with the greatest caution.

TAPE-WORM. See Worms.

TENESMUS.

Descripton.—Is a constant irritation at the fundament, with an inclination of going to stool, when little or nothing can be discharged, except slime or mucus, which is somtimes streaked with blood.

Causes.—It is often attendant on a stone in the bladder, and frequently occasioned by inflammation of the neck of the bladder, from gravel, clap, or the use of astringent and stimulating injections. It is likewise frequently produced by small worms in the rectum, acrid humours, the pressure of an impregnated womb, piles, &c.

Treatment.—When it is produced by the irritation of a stone in the bladder, the patient should change his usual position of body till it is removed. (See Stone and Gravel.)

When it is occasioned by inflammation of the neck of the bladder (from whatever cause the inflammation may arise), the application of leeches; the use of castor oil, as directed No. 2, and the warm bath will be necessary, and ge-

neral bleeding, if the subject be of a plethoric habit.

If worms are the cause, the treatment recommended for their expulsion will be necessary; and if attendant on pregnancy, occasional doses of rhubarb, No. 25, or lenitive electuary, No. 106, and lying on the right or left side when in bed, instead of the back, will certainly afford relief.

In all cases, aloes are highly improper; the frequent use of this purgative medicine having, from its stimulating effects on the rectum, often produced this disease.

TETANY

Is a spasmodic affection, occurring chiefly in warm climates.

Description.—An involuntary and continued contraction of all or several of the muscles of the body, receiving various appellations, according to the situation of the parts affected. When the muscles of the jaw are principally affected, it is named Trismus, or Locked Jaw. It commences with a stiffness in the back of the neck, which gradually increases to a pain, and renders the affected part entirely immovable. It extends to the root of the tongue, affects the parts concerned in swallowing, then attacks the

front of the chest, and lastly seizes the back. Spasms then arise in the stiffened parts, occasioning such excruciating pain, that death is often wished for, even by the spectators. A remission of these spasms often takes place every ten or fifteen minutes, but is renewed with aggravated torture on the slightest causes, even by the least motion of the person, or the touch of an attendant. The teeth become entirely closed, so that nothing can be introduced into the mouth; and in the end every voluntary muscle of the body is affected, producing the most hideous deformity of appearance.

No permanent fever attends this disease, though some temporary symptoms of it appear during the violence of the spasms; nor is any habit of body exempt from it; but the robust and strong are most frequently its victims.

Causes.—Cold and moisture, particularly sudden vicissitudes or irritation of the nerves in consequence of local injury, as punctures, cuts, &c.

Treatment.—When the disease is known to arise from a wounded nerve, the most important step towards the cure is, to cut off the communication of the part with the brain, either by cutting through the nerve in its course, or by destroying, to a certain extent, the affected part

or extremity. If the wound be on a finger or a toe, it should be amputated.

Opium is the only anti-spasmodic that can be depended on in the palliation or cure of this disease: Sixty drops of laudanum should be given in a little wine every three or four hours, and the dose increased ten drops each time, till the spasms are evidently abated in violence; it should then be continued at that dose for some time longer, the disease being very liable to recur. This medicine, even in large doses, does not operate in these cases as in other diseases; for although it produces some remission of the spasm and pain, it hardly induces any sleep, or occasions that stupor, intoxication, or delirium, which it generally does in other circumstances. Opium has been given, with success, to the extent of half a drachm, which is equal to about three quarters of an ounce of laudanum.

If the muscles of the jaw, and those concerned in swallowing, are so much affected that this remedy cannot be got into the stomach, it must be administered clyster ways, by dissolving about two scruples, or a drachm of opium in half a pint of gruel, which should be injected every three or four hours.

Mercury has been much recommended as a remedy for this disease; and as it does not interfere with the exhibition of opium, a drachm of the strong mercurial ointment, may be rubbed

on the inside of the thigh, till the whole is taken up into the system, and repeated twice a day.

Cold bathing is much extolled, and, it seems, in many instances has succeeded in curing this disease: And as the use of the warm bath is very doubtful, and in many cases has proved hurtful, the cold bath should have the preference.

The application of blisters, and loss of blood, have apparently, in some instances, proved of service; but in the majority of cases they have had no such effect, and in many have aggravated the symptoms.

As it is in the commencement of this disease that remedies are to be employed with a probability of success, medical aid should be procured while it is likely to prove of service.

TOOTH-ACH.

This well-known disease consists in a most acute pain in one or more of the teeth. When it attacks a sound tooth, it should be considered of the nature of acute rheumatism, arising from the application of cold, and as such treated with blisters behind the ears, or nape of the neck, and warm fomentations. (See rheumatism.)

When the tooth is carious, the only permanent relief the disease will admit of, is the extraction of the affected tooth; which, when

properly managed, is attended with considerably less pain than a severe paroxysm of the tooth-ach. The principal pain attending this operation is occasioned by the great pressure of the heel of the instrument, in common use, on the inflamed gum, to obviate which, I some time since had an instrument made, on a new construction, with the fulcrum and claw so constructed, that this great inconvenience is not only prevented, but the extraction of the tooth effected in nearly a perpendicular direction, by which means any injury of the jaw bone is likewise avoided. An account of this improvement I communicated to the medical profession, with a drawing, through the medium of the Physical and Medical Journal; and I have the satisfaction to understand, that it is adopted by the first dentists in London.

When the disease of the tooth appears to be constitutional, its removal is not advisable, as the same diseased process will, in that case, go on in another tooth; although it is a prevailing opinion with the medical men and dentists, that one bad tooth will affect the others, in this case, however, it will, by remaining in the jaw, most certainly prevent any further decay.

The urgency of the pain may be mitigated by the application of æther and laudanum, by means of a little lint, with which the tooth should be covered, and the mouth afterwards kept closely

shut for some time. The part should be previously rinsed out with warm water, to remove any acrid matter that may irritate the nerve of the tooth. Pills of camphor and opium have been very successfully applied for this purpose, as have likewise oil of cloves, thyme, and pillitory of Spain.

The best preventive to this disease is to clean the teeth every morning with proper tooth powder, and cold water; the former, with the use of a hard brush, will remove the tartarous adhesions, and check the progress of the decay of the tooth, while the latter will remove any acrid matter that may lay on the exposed nerve; and at the same time, being applied cold, will destroy its sensibility; by the observance of these means, I have known many people that have suffered very considerably from the tooth-ach, never after experience a return. The carbonic tooth powder, for this purpose, is indisputably the best, being perfectly exempt from the pernicious ingredient of which tooth powders in general are made, whose mechanical and chemical effects on the enamel of the teeth, often produce the mischief they were employed to prevent. The carbonic tooth powder was first recommended by the celebrated French chemist, Monsieur Fourcroy, on account of its possessing the great properties of rendering the teeth white, destroying fetor, (which

contaminates the breath,) preserving the gums in an healthy state, and capable of suspending the further decay of a tooth, when it has once taken place, and at the same time, incapable of injuring either the teeth or gums.

TRISMUS. See Tetany.

TYPHUS FEVER.

This disease is likewise named *putrid, malignant, camp, gaol, pestilential,* and when attended with livid eruption, *petechial* or *spotted fever.* It occurs most frequently in autumn, and the end of summer, when the days are hot, and the nights cold and chilly. The debilitated are generally the subjects of its attack.

Description.—It commences with pain in the head, vomiting, rigors, intense and permanent heat, great thirst, the pulse irregular in the wrist, sometimes tense and hard, and sometimes quick and small, while the arteries of the temples and neck beat with increased force, with flushing of the face, redness of the eyes, denoting a considerable determination of the blood to the head. An increase of the fever is observable every evening; so that, in the second week, the patient becomes delirious, with great prostration

of strength, the tongue dry, and of a blackish or livid appearance. The breath is offensive, the delirium becomes more constant, and at length changes to a stupor; an eruption of livid or purples pots sometimes appears; the stools become blackish, which, as well as the urine, emit a disagreeable smell, and are sometimes, at this stage, discharged involuntarily; great anxiety about the heart, and sighing, take place; and often a discharge of blood from the nose, gums, intestines, and other parts; a copious and obstinate purging, cold clammy perspirations, and hiccup precede its fatal termination.

Causes.—Putrid air, lowness of spirits, poor diet, and whatever weakens the nervous power, are enumerated by authors as causes of this disease. It is evidently produced by the action of putrid effluvia on the system; but the nature and real seat of the disease are, I believe, little understood.

The first symptoms, as the acute pain in the head, the turgid state of the vessels of the eyes, and the increased action of those in the neck and temples, the disordered state of the mind, the deprivation of sleep, and affection of the whole nervous system, indicate an increased or inflammatory action in the brain, which is confirmed by the appearances that organ exhibits on dissection; as the formation of several small

abscesses in its substance, an increased effusion of serum in the ventricles, and adhesions of the membranes. From the examination of those who have died of this disease, it appears to me, that it is primarily an inflammation of the medularly portion of the brain, produced by the peculiar stimulus of putrid effluvia; which, in a short time, by impairing that important organ, and impeding its functions, produces the various symptoms of debility in the system, which we observe, sooner or later, to take place, and which have been attributed to a putrescency of the fluids of the the body: whether the process of putrefaction ever takes place during life is extremely doubtful, such a disposition being so powerfully counteracted by the living principle —that it does not take place, I think, is sufficiently obvious, from the bodies of those, who have fell a sacrifice to the disease, keeping a much longer time than any other, before signs of putrefaction appear; and, on this account, such bodies are preferred by anatomists, at hospitals, for demonstrating its structure, &c. to the pupils.

TREATMENT.—As this disease, when once established, generally runs a certain course, in defiance of medicine, the chief object of practice is to check the progress in its onset: for this purpose a dose of emetic tartar, No. 28, should be given, on its first attack; which, by evacu-

ating the stomach and bowels, producing an equal distribution of blood over the body, and promoting the different secretions, often succeeds in this respect. If the symptoms, however, continue, the head should be shaved, and a blister applied to the scalp, leeches to the temples, and the feet kept warm by frequent immersion in warm water. The saline mixture should be given, in a state of effervescence, as recommended under the head of crystallized acid of lemon, No. 22, or a table spoonful of yeast, twice a day. Fixed air, administered in this manner, affords more relief than any medicine we are acquainted with; and, in several instances, has alone proved an effectual remedy, not by counteracting putrescency, as has been imagined, but by cooling the body, abating thirst, and destroying the increased irritability of the system. The room should be spacious, frequently ventilated and fumigated, as directed under the head of vitriolic acid, No. 106. The washing of the body with cold vinegar, and the application of it to the scalp and forehead, by means of folds of linen, have proved very beneficial, probably by extracting the super-abundant heat. The application of water to the head, in a frozen state, has been much extolled in this disease; but cold vinegar is certainly preferable. The patient may likewise be permitted to smell a sponge, moistened with the acetic acid, (see

page 94) at a short distance from the nostrils, a little of which may likewise be sprinkled over the quilt of the bed, or evaporated in a saucer, over the blaze of a candle, which, in small rooms, will supersede the necessity of the more elaborate process of fumigation. The smelling salts, in this case, are very improper, as they increase the delirium, and have no effect in destroying the infectious effluvia of the body. The food should be principally, weak veal broth thickened with a little arrow root, or oatmeal, and the drink mint tea, or barley water, acidulated with lemon juice.

If, on the fifth or sixth day of the disease, symptoms of debility should come on, and the patient evidently not relieved by these means, a more nutritious diet may be allowed, and the strength of the patient supported with port wine, and the camphorated bark mixture, No. 56, which require great caution in their employment, and should be increased and diminished according to the urgency of the symptoms. If the brain is not affected, and the fever arises evidently from debility, the camphorated mixture, No. 56, with wine and the restorative diet, No. 109, should be employed. This fever often attends the confluent small pox. Inflammation of the brain, produced by the action of putrid effluvia, is less vigorous than that occasioned by the application of cold, noticed under the head

of inflammation of the brain or phrenzy, and seems to be confined to the medullary matter of the brain; while, in the latter case, the whole of the brain and membranes are affected: it does not therefore require the active means there suggested for its resolution, or to be pursued any longer than indicated by the state of the patient, and the relief afforded by the depleting plan, &c.

When treating on inflammation of the brain, I observed, that that disease was often mistaken for putrid fever, and there noticed a well-marked case of the kind, which was so treated by a country apothecary, within my knowledge; the disease of course terminated fatally; and I was afterwards allowed to satisfy my mind as to the real state of the brain.

An experienced practitioner, in a market town in Herefordshire, was requested to see a patient affected with fever; on his arrival he found the patient delirious, and labouring apparently under symptoms of debility, and from its being epidemical in the neighbourhood, he had no hesitation in pronouncing it *Typhus Fever*, and as such treated it with cordials. The symptoms of delirium afterwards increased, and the patient, in a fit of phrenzy, divided his wind-pipe with a razor, by which he lost nearly two quarts of blood, before surgical assistance could be obtained. The surgeon approximated the edges

of the wound with a ligature and proper bandages, and supposed that the loss of blood must, under such circumstances, prove fatal; but, to his great surprise, the patient speedily recovered from the fever, and the wound healed on the first intention.

If medical men of judgment are deceived in the nature of this disease, it cannot be a proper case for domestic medicine.

VENEREAL DISEASE. See Supplement.

VOMITING.

When it is occasioned by poisons taken into the stomach, it requires the treatment already recommended for poisons. When produced by pregnancy, bleeding, with the use of gentle laxatives, as magnesia and rhubarb, or lenitive electuary, will afford relief. When it arises from weakness and irritability of the stomach, or acidity, it should be considered as a symptom of indigestion, and as such treated. When the matter thrown up is bilious, the neutral salts, No. 2, will be proper, with small doses of laudanum, No. 18, if the symptoms are violent. When vomiting is the consequence of hard drinking, diluents, as tea and coffee, with a dose of magnesia, No. 1, or salt of wormwood, No. 21, will be most proper. When the cause is doubtful,

the saline draughts, in a state of effervescence, see No. 22, with the occasional use of small doses of rhubarb, and laudanum, No. 18, may be employed.

Dr. Buchan, in his last edition of the Domestic Medicine, page 65, observes, "those who are afflicted with hot alkaline eructations ought to use a diet consisting chiefly of acid vegetables," with a view, no doubt, of neutralizing the predominant alkali. The formation of an alkali in the stomach is a circumstance I never heard of before, and which I conceive an utter impossibility; the Doctor probably means bilious eructations or vomiting, for which acid food would be highly injurious. An acid is frequently generated in the stomach from acetous formation of the vegetable contents; but we know of no power in the stomach, or process that can there take place, capable of producing an alkali.

VOMITING OF BLOOD.

When blood is evacuated into the stomach, and brought up by vomiting, it is thus termed; and when it proceeds from the lungs, although its expulsion is assisted by vomiting, it is termed *Hæmoptoe*, or *Spitting of Blood.* In describing the latter affection, I noticed in what manner the source of the blood thrown out from the mouth might be ascertained. When the blood

is brought up without coughing, if of a black and grumous appearance, and mixed with the contents of the stomach, there can be no doubt but that it proceeds from the stomach.

Causes.—It may arise from the suppression of accustomed evacuations, as the menses or piles.

Treatment.—If the patient be of a plethoric habit of body, the loss of eight or ten ounces of blood from the arm will be necessary, after which, three table-spoonfuls of the following mixture should be taken every four hours.

Take of Spermaceti Powder, three drachms,
White Sugar, two ditto,

Rub them well together with the yolk of an egg, and add by degrees

Infusion of Red Rose Leaves, half an ounce,
Acid Elixir of Vitriol, thirty drops,
Tincture of Catechu, half an ounce,
Mix.

It will likewise be proper to produce a determination of blood to the skin, by small doses of ipecacuanha, combined with opium, as two grains of the former, with about eight drops of laudanum, or half a grain of opium. With the same view the feet should be put into warm water for ten minutes. If these means should

fail to check the bleeding, six or eight grains of alum in powder may be added to each dose of the mixture, and a blister applied to the pit of the stomach.

Thin gruel will be sufficient both for food and beverage, which should be taken cold. If it arises from suppression or retention of the menses, after the discharge has ceased for some days, the remedies already recommend for these complaints should be employed to produce a proper determination to the womb. (See Green Sickness and Suppression of the Menses.)

When the cause is a suppression of the piles, the occasional use of aloetic purges, as the cathartic extract, No. 112, p. 95, will prevent its recurrence.

WARTS.

When they have narrow roots they are best removed by ligature; but when the bases are broad, they may be safely and effectually destroyed by rubbing their surface every second morning, with a little lunar caustic, till they entirely disappear.

The muriated tincture of steel is likewise very efficacious in removing warts of every description, it should be applied every day by means of a camel hair pencil, till they disappear. Warts

arising from the action of the venereal virus, are considered under the head of Venereal Disease. (See Supplement.)

WATERY HEAD.

This disease is almost peculiar to infants, chiefly of a scrophulous habit, rarely occurring beyond the fourteenth year.

Description.—The symptoms of this disease are not at first clear. It commences with slight pain in the head, generally across the brow; as the effusion of water increases, the child becomes affected with nausea, sickness, starting in the sleep, screaming, and other disorders of the animal functions, as convulsions, &c. without any aparent cause; at length the brain becomes so compressed as to produce delatation of the pupils of the eyes, a variable pulse, with evident stupor.

Treatment.—Unfortunately the nature of this disease is not ascertained, till the effusion of serum is so considerable as to render all efforts to produce its absorption ineffectual. The disease is, in the first instance, an inflammation or increased action in the membrane lining the ventricles, and if it was at first detected, an effusion might be prevented by application of a

large blister to the head, leeches to the temples, and the use of brisk purges, as calomel, or the basilic powder, No. 29. When, however, this stage is passed over, the most active means must be employed to stimulate the absorbent vessels for the removal of the accumulated serum; for this purpose a perpetual blister over the scalp, gentle electric shocks through the head, and the exhibition of mercury, are the most powerful remedies.

One grain of calomel may be given in a little jelly three times a day, or a scruple of the strong mercurial ointment may be rubbed on the back twice a day, till it disappears, by means of a hand covered with bladder, some practitioners recommend the ointment to be rubbed over the blister for the purpose of being more speedily taken up into the system, and, if the patient will suffer it, it is certainly to be preferred. Five drops of muriated tincture of steel may likewise be given in a little water two or three times a day, and the strength of the system supported by beef tea and wine.

As this disease, when far advanced, is generally considered incurable, medical aid should be speedily employed to prevent its arrival at that hopeless pitch.

WEN.

Is a tumor on the front of the neck, situated between the wind-pipe and skin. Several remedies have been recommended for the cure of this disease, but none have answered so well as the burnt sponge. Troches of this medicine have been much recommended by Dr. Cheston, an eminent physician in Gloucester, and Mr. Ring, surgeon, in London, who found that form to answer best; the advantages of which is attributed to its gradual solution in the mouth. The basis of the Coventry medicine for wens is burnt sponge. Rubbing the surface of the tumor every night with salt, has, in some instances, succeeded in removing wenny substances of considerable size, also the application of the hand of an executed criminal, which can operate only through the medium of the imagination. A dead toad hung round the neck has on the same principle effected a cure.

If the burnt sponge troches do not succeed, the nourishment of the tumor may be cut off by applying ligatures to the arteries that supply it with blood, which, when the vessels are superficial (as is often the case) is neither a painful or difficult operation. There are several species of tumors that form in different parts of the human body, which derive their names from

the nature of their substance. I sometime since removed one from the back of a carpenter, (——— Thomas), at Abbey Tintern, in Monmouthshire, that weighed, after it was freed from the blood, sixteen pounds twelve ounces, which was the largest I ever saw. It had been gradually growing nearly twenty years, and had latterly, from its magnitude and weight, become so troublesome as to prevent him following his occupation, which he now pursues with greater ease than he had done for many years. The removal of a wen, (which is always situated on the anterior part of the neck) by the knife, is on account of the number of blood vessels in the neighbourhood, a dangerous operation.

WHITES, or Fluor Albus.

Description.—A slimy or puriform discharge from the passage leading to the womb, varying in appearance, consistence, and quantity, in different persons. It generally proceeds from the vagina (the passage leading to the womb), and sometimes from the womb itself.

Causes.—It arises from laxity of the vessels of the parts, or whatever may irritate them.

Treatment.—It is often readily cured by those balsamic medicines which are commonly

determined to the urinary passages, as the balsam copaiva, and the other turpentine balsams, which may be taken in the following manner:

Take of Balsam Copaiva, three drachms, to be well rubbed in a mortar, with the yolk of an egg, then add by degrees
Mint Water, eight ounces, and Sugar three drachms,

Two table spoonfuls to be taken three times a day. If the strength of the system be much reduced, eight ounces of the decoction of bark may be substituted for the mint water, or three of the following pills may be taken twice or thrice a day.

Take of Gum Olibanum,
Essential Salt of Bark, of each one drachm,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form a mass, to be divided into thirty pills.

If attended with costiveness, a drachm of the ecphractic pill of the Edinburgh Pharmacopæia may be employed in lieu of the essential salt of bark. Cold bathing, or the local application of cold water, by means of a *bidet*, is a very important remedy for this disease, and should be used every morning.

If the discharge should continue after the due employment of these means, an astringent lo-

tion may be made use of with effect, as the following:

Take of Vitriolated Zinc, one drachm,
Dissolve in Pure Water, one pint,

To be injected up the vagina, by means of a womb syringe. The due employment of these remedies, with proper exercise and nutritious diet, I have never known to fail in curing the most obstinate cases of this disease. When the discharge is offensive to the smell, a dark and yellowish colour, and attended with pain in the region of the womb, or with inflammation, burning heat, difficulty or pain in making water, troublesome itching, &c. more especially to wards the decline of life, women should lose no time in applying for proper advice.

WHITE SWELLING

Is generally of a scrophulous nature, but sometimes produced by rheumatism. The former begins in the extremities of the bones or cartilages of the joints, while the latter is seated principally in the ligaments, and may be relieved as already directed for rheumatism. The knee, ancle, and elbow joints are generally the seats of this disease. The scrophulous white swelling begins with acute pain in the middle of the joint, soon succeeded by a gradual enlargement

of the ends of the bones forming the joint, with a distention of the veins of the skin surrounding it.

TREATMENT OF SCROPHULOUS WHITE SWELLING.—The object of topical management is to prevent the formation of matter, by the application of leeches or cupping, which should be repeated every other day, or according to the urgency of the case; the whole joint should then be kept continually wet and cold, with the following lotion, by means of four or five folds of old linen:

Take of Crude Sal Ammoniac, half an ounce, dissolve in
Spring Water, one pint and half, then add vinegar, half a pint

Two drachms of either of the neutral salts, No. 2, should be taken every morning, and the medicines recommended for the king's evil, to correct the scrophulous diathesis of the system.

In all diseases of the joints, particularly white swelling, the use of distilled water is a most important remedy. It should not only constitute the patient's beverage, but be employed in every article of diet, viz. in the making of tea, coffee, broths, &c. The diet should be low, and consist principally of vegetables, animal broth, and milk, till the diseased part is in a quiet state. Such is the opinion of Dr. Lambe, of the altera-

tive powers of this water in those cases, that he is persuaded, that by its general use, even without any local application or medicines, the most diseased joint may be recovered. As it does not interfere with the means suggested, it should not be neglected, as it certainly is the most important of any.

After the local affection is evidently abated, the cure may be completed by the application of small blisters on each side of the joint, the discharge of which should be kept up by dressing them every morning with the savin ointment, No. 48; for which purpose the thin skin of the blister should be entirely removed. The limb should be kept perfectly quiet, and when the disease is quieted, the joint may be moved a little once a day, to prevent adhesions and consequent stiffness. By the external irritation and discharge of blisters, properly managed and continued for a length of time, with medicines calculated to correct the constitutional affection, and at the same time to support the strength of the patient, many limbs have been saved, which by a hasty surgeon would have been condemned to the knife. The profession is much indebted to Mr. Crowther, of London, and Mr. Russell, of Edinburgh, for many valuable observations on this disease. When the blisters are healed up the plaster of

gum ammoniac and cicuta may be applied with advantage. The same local treatment is proper for enlargement of joints from rheumatism, which if attended with fever requires the con-constitutional remedies, recommended for acute rheumatism.

WOMB, CANCER OF. See Cancer.

WORMS.

The worms that infest the human body, are principally three kinds, viz. Ascarides, or small round and short worm, which chiefly occupy the rectum; the teres, or round and long worm, which are generally seated in the small intestines and stomach: and the tænia or tape worm, which for the most part possesses the whole tract of the intestines, and from the testimony of some medical authors, are from two to forty feet long.

The symptoms denoting their existence are common to the different species, viz. indigestion with a variable appetite, foul tongue, offensive breath, hard full and tense belly, with occasional gripings and pains about the navel, heat and itching sensation in the rectum, and about the anus, the eyes heavy and dull, itching of the

nose, short dry cough, grinding of the teeth, and starting during sleep, attended often with a slow fever.

CAUSES.—Relaxation of the stomach and bowels, and the consequent accumulation of mucus or slimy matter, affording a nidus or lodgement for the ova, which are swallowed with the food, are the causes of the generation of worms.

TREATMENT.—The indications of cure are, first, to evacuate the redundant slime, and afterwards to strengthen the stomach and bowels, so as to prevent the future lodgment of the ova.

The first object is best accomplished by brisk cathartic medicines, as the basilic powder, No. 29, a dose of which should be taken every second or third morning, for at least a fortnight, and the tonic mixture No. 66, in the intermediate time. Lime water being capable of dissolving the mucus in which the worms are involved, may be taken in the quantity of a teacupful, two or three times a day, during the operation of the basilic powder, and with the tonic mixture; the electuary of tin, No. 75, may likewise be taken every morning and evening.

The common male fern root has been much

extolled as a certain remedy for the tape worm, the following directions are given for its use: "Two or three drachms of the powdered root to be taken in the morning, no supper having been taken the night before. It generally sickens a little. A brisk purgative with a little calomel, (as the basilic powder, No. 29) is to be given a few hours after, which sometimes brings off the worm entire; if not, the same course must be followed at due intervals."

For the success of this remedy, it is proper that the root should be recently gathered; for after being kept long in the shops, its activity is diminished or destroyed. It should be used recently dug, being brought to a state fit for powdering, by drying it before the fire.

There are a great variety of specifics recommended for the destruction of worms, the efficacy of which reside entirely in their purgative quality. It was supposed that tin destroyed worms by its mechanical action on them, but it is more probable that the worms are dislodged from their adhesions to the intestines by its mechanical irritation on the coats of the stomach and intestines. (See the Diseases of Children.)

A variety of nostrums are puffed off in the public prints as specifics for every species of worms lodged in the alimentary canal, the basis

of which being mercury, they are often rendered a strong poison, by the generation of an acidity from keeping. (See Page 41.)

An empiric from being a *Gardener**, and afterwards a *Frame Maker*, has lately turned *Worm Doctor*; and it appears, by his ill-acquired wealth, or as Dr. Hamilton terms it, "*money stolen*," has been elevated to the *dignified* academical honour of *Doctor of Physic*; and now extends his practic to the cure of every disease incident to the human frame.

If such acquirements are deemed sufficient by the Marischal College of Aberdeen, to qualify a candidate for a Doctor's degree, such a person should not be permitted to practise in London, unless duly authorised by the College of Physicians, who no doubt would judge a *little* knowledge of medicine and anatomy necessary qualifications. If Jew pedlars, shoemakers, and frame-makers, are to be authorized to practise as physicians in the metropolis,

* This empiric seems to be aware of the dangerous practice of Quackery, for, the house he lately occupied in Long Acre, being taken by a vender of Quack Medicines, in his advertisements he desires the public to be very particular in applying to his new residence, his late sop being opened in the QUACK MEDICINE LINE; while his successor writes up, "The Medical Repository for the Sale of every approved Medicine now administered in the Science of Physic."

by the Professors of Physic at the Marischal College of Aberdeen, how is the public to know the regular practitioner from the impostor?

The legal pharmaceutical medicines, and those of quacks are so confounded by the late act of parliament for regulating the duties on quack medicines, that it would puzzle the framer himself to draw the line of distinction between the regular medicines of the pharmacopœias of the different colleges, and the nostrums of quacks, being strangely jumbled together in the schedule.

The legislature has wisely directed, that all nostrums should be subject to a duty, and sold with a stamp, as a *badge of disgrace*, not only to distinguish the trash from pharmaceutical preparations, but with the view of suppressing the vile trade altogether. The quack tribe, however, artfully turn this taxation to an advantage, by commencing their advertisements, with *royal authority—his Majesty's authority—by act of parliament*, &c. &c. alluding to nothing more than the sanction of a stamp: And on their signs at the Royal Exchange, and in their puffs in the American papers, to this royal patronage they add, that their medicines are *prescribed* by the most eminent physicians in England; and these bold assertions not being contradicted, foreigners really

believe them to be true, and thus the profession of Great Britain become stigmatized with the appellation of quacks, in many foreign countries, and the admission of their nostrums prohibited by their laws.

It is much to be lamented, that the College of Physicians, in London, do not exercise their authority in subverting a practice which involves the lives and happiness of so great a portion of the community.

APPENDIX.

Of Substances lodged in the Gullet, or taken into the Stomach.

WHEN any substance is lodged at the top of the gullet, it may in general be removed by the fingers, or a pair of forceps; but when it has descended far down, it will be necessary to push it into the stomach, by introducing a probang (made with a piece of soft sponge fastened to the end of a slip of whale-bone); but if the article swallowed be sharp pointed, or has acute angles, this operation must be conducted with great care, as by the employment of much force it may penetrate the substance of the gullet, which, in cases of pins, needles, nails, or sharp bones, is not an unfrequent occurrence.

When the article has passed into the stomach, whether it be sharp pointed, angular, or large,

no means should be taken to hasten its passage through the alimentary canal; for if it be sharp pointed, it will be less likely to injure the intestines by passing through gently with hard fæces, than by being hurried through them with liquid ones; and if it be large, as a shilling, a halfpenny, a bullet, or fruit-stone, it will require some time to pass through the orifice of the stomach (termed the pylorus) into the intestine, and the more gradually it makes its way, the less mischief will be produced. When this practice has been pursued, I never knew any serious injury follow the swallowing of these articles; but have frequently known much mischief produced by the exhibition of aperient medicines, with a view to carry them off more speedily by stool.

If the article should be mineral, as lead, copper, &c. it will be advisable to avoid the use of acids, till it has passed through the intestines, and to prevent acidity, by taking a little magnesia every morning.

Emetics should never be given without the sanction of an experenced physician or surgeon.

Dr. Buchan, in his Domestic Medicine, observes, that if the various means he has suggested to hook out substances lodged in the gullet, should fail, the operation of "*Bronchotomy*, or opening the wind-pipe, must be performed." What advantage, however, can

possibly be derived from making an opening into the wind-pipe to remove a substance retained in a different tube, must puzzle an anatomist to conjecture. Should an apothecary, not conversant in anatomy, attempt to relieve a person in great agony and apparent danger, by following this author's advice, and after making the incision in the wind-pipe, and not finding the obstructing body there, should be induçed still to cut into the gullet, the life of the patient would be inevitably destroyed.

When the substance cannot be removed, and the patient's life is endangered from the want of due nourishment being thrown into the system, *œsophagotomy*, or cutting into the gullet may be necessary; in performing which, the wind-pipe is not wounded. On account of the imminent hazard attending this operation, from the great blood-vessels that lie contiguous to the part, it is never practised but in cases of the utmost danger, and should be trusted only to surgeons of approved experience.

KING'S EVIL, OR SCROPHULA.

To the treatment of this complaint, page 320, add the use of distilled water, as directed page 175. The general use of this water, as there specified, will prove of greater advantage in correcting the King's Evil, or Scrophula, than any medicine yet known.

TABLE OF DIET.

LOW OR FEVER DIET.

Panada; gruel; milk, thickened with arrow-root; plain bread pudding; arrow-root, salep, tapioca jelly; rice milk; chicken or veal tea.

DRINK.

Barley water, acidulated with lemon juice; milk and water; lemon or orange whey; thin gruel; bohea, balm, or mint tea.

RESTORATIVE, OR CONVALESCENT DIET.

Rice or bread pudding; hart's horn, isinglass, or calves feet jelly; oysters, and shell-fish; flounders and soles; veal, fowls, rabbits, and lamb.

DRINK.

Fresh small beer; porter; port or claret wine with water; weak brandy and water.

GENEROUS OR FULL DIET.

Rice or bread pudding; strong beer; broth, or gravy soup; oysters and shell fish; veal, fowl, lamb, mutton, beef, pork, &c. jelly of hart's horn, calves' feet, or isinglass; meat soups, with proper vegetables.

DRINK.

Brisk cyder, or perry; sherry, port, or claret wine; rum or brandy diluted with water.

MEDICINE CHESTS.

The following Chests are fitted up under the Direction of the Author, at the Chemical and Medical Hall, Henrietta-St. Covent Garden.*

THE chests are neatly made of mahogany, and the bottles of flint glass, with glass stoppers, carefully ground, so as to be air tight. The bottles and drawers have printed labels affixed to them, expressive of their contents, with a numerical reference to the book of directions, and the medicines are of the choicest quality.

Of the Improved Family Dispensary there are six sizes, viz.

	L.	s.	d.
First Size †, containing every article specified in the Family Dispensatory pages 2 and 3 .	16	16	0
Second Size, ...	13	3	0
Third Size, ...	10	6	0

* The institution is so named, merely to distinguish it from druggists' shops. As celebrity, more than emolument is the object of the proprietors, they beg the nobility and gentry will observe, that no article is to be depended on as prepared by them unless it has their names affixed thereto, which is an invariable rule. No quack or empirical nostrum is kept by them, or any preparation sold, but of allowed efficacy; and although the institution is established more particularly for the furnishing of Medicine Chests, prescriptions and orders will be most punctually attended to.

† Double or treble this size may be had if required.

	L.	s.	d.
Fourth Size, (with the omission of four articles, there being only nine bottles in each wing)	8	6	0
Fifth Size, (eight articles omitted, there being only six bottles in each wing)	6	16	0
Sixth Size *, ...	5	18	0

THE GENTLEMAN's CASE.

From 3 6 to	6	6	0

THE LADY's DISPENSARY.

From 1 12 0—2 15 0 to	7	10	0

TRAVELLER's CASE.

Made flat for the conveniency of travelling, .	3	10	0

THE INFIRMARY.

From 3 15 to	10	8	0

THE SPECIFIC DISPENSARY.

Complete, with alterative medicines, corresponding with the Supplement to the Domestic Medical Guide, ...	3	6	0

* The lowest charge being annexed to each chest, it is requested that all orders may be sent direct to them, as the price will not admit of any allowance being made to the trade. They find it necessary to urge the propriety of direct application to the Repository; an instance having lately occurred, to their knowledge, of a chest of sixteen guineas, by passing through two hands, being ultimately charged twenty pounds; and another, of an apothecary, who fitted up a chest with his own drugs after being desired to send it from the Chemical and Medical Hall.

THE SEA MEDICINE CHEST.

From 8l. 6s. 0d. to 20l. and upwards.

PORTABLE CHEST OF CHEMISTRY.

Furnished with different tests, for the analysis of natural and artificial products, with microscope, &c. and complete directions, from 4l. 8s. to 8l. 5s. and upwards.

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Containing reagents and implements for analysing minerals, from 3l. 6s. to 10l. and upwards.

N. B. Family Medicine Chests may be re-furnished, or allowed for in exchange.

Speedily will be published, Second Edition, Price 2s.

A

TREATISE

ON

DISEASES OF THE LUNGS.

WITH OBSERVATIONS ON THE

Properties of the Lichen Islandicus, or Iceland Moss.

ILLUSTRATED WITH

A VARIETY OF DESPERATE CASES

RESTORED BY ITS USE AND AUXILIARY MEDICINES.

THE intention of the author, in this publication, is to instruct consumptive patients to make such preparations of the Lichen Islandicus which experience has proved best adapted to the cure of consumptions of this country, and to caution them against the use of preparations advertised under the sanction of a Monsieur Regnault, as the Syrup Lozenges *, &c. which he contends do not contain the combined properties of the herb, to which its salutary effects in pulmonary affections are attributable, and which, instead of proving of utility, (from the quantity of sugar they contain) by turning acid on the stomach, often aggravate the most alarming symptoms. The genuine farina, or flour of the herb, he contends, is the only preparation to be relied on, and which is now prescribed by the first medical practitioners in this kingdom, who have informed the author that they have found it succeed after other preparations had proved of no advantage.

To make the farina, the herb, after being perfectly freed from the sticks and green moss, that are imported with it, must be washed in cold water, and then dried in a gentle heat, after which it is to be ground, and passed through a very fine sieve, so as to free it from the fibres. (See page 96.)

* The venders of these preparations very properly take the precaution of affixing a stamp to them.

Instead of the paltry preparation of lozenges of the lichen Islandicus, which cannot possess any advantage over common sugar, the author recommends the ipecacuanha troches, or pastiles, lately introduced by Mr. Sheppard, which are certainly calculated to relieve breathing, and assist expectoration. These troches are a safe and useful remedy for coughs of every description, and an excellent form for giving small doses of ipecacuanha to children, in cases of cough and fever.

⁎ The author has great satisfaction in observing that a dispensary is about to be established, by voluntary subscription, at No. 70, Chancery Lane, for the relief of consumptive patients, where, (after the first of January, 1805) advice will be given in such cases, gratis, from ten to twelve o'clock, every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

THE

CURE OF RECENT CASES

OF THE

VENEREAL DISEASES,

AND

EFFECTUAL MEANS OF PREVENTION

AFTER

IMPURE CONNECTION.

A SUPPLEMENT TO THE THIRD EDITION OF THE DOMESTIC MEDICAL GUIDE:

COMPRISING THE

CURE OF RECENT CASES

OF THE

VENEREAL DISEASES,

AND

EFFECTUAL MEANS OF PREVENTION

AFTER

IMPURE CONNECTION.

BY

RICHARD REECE, M.D.

Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. &c.

London:

Printed by C. Stower, Charles Street, Hatton Garden.

FOR

LONGMAN, HURST, REES, AND ORME, PATERNOSTER-ROW.

1805.

TO

THOMAS CAM, ESQ.

SURGEON EXTRAORDINARY

TO THE GENERAL INFIRMARY AT HEREFORD, &c. &c.

THIS SUPPLEMENT

TO THE THIRD EDITION OF THE

DOMESTIC MEDICAL GUIDE,

IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,

AS A MARK OF

HIGH PROFESSIONAL ESTEEM AND GRATITUDE:

BY

HIS MOST OBEDIENT

AND VERY HUMBLE SERVANT,

THE AUTHOR.

Henrietta-st. Govent Garden,
December 10, 1804.

A

SUPPLEMENT, &c.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

In the last edition of the Domestic Medical Guide, I promised to publish full directions, chiefly for the prevention of the diseases termed Gonorrhœa, or Clap, and that termed Syphilis, Lues Venerea, or Pox, in a separate Treatise, as a Companion to the Gentleman's Medicine Chest. The motives that induced me to omit its consideration in the two former editions were, I am now persuaded, without just foundation; and being called upon for another edition, sooner than I expected, I shall here fulfil that engagement as a supplement.

It was not my intention, even in a separate work, to have entered fully into the history of these diseases, or attempted to have given directions for their treatment in their various stages: For, so different are the appearances they assume in different constitutions, that it is impossible to

lay down general rules for their cure, under all circumstances; for although mercury may be considered a certain remedy for the cure of the confirmed lues; yet it is but too often complicated with other diseases of the system, or attended with certain peculiarity of constitution, or particular irritation of local affections or erysipelatous inflammation, which render the immediate employment of this medicine highly injurious. I shall confine myself to such instructions, that I think may prove of utility, and as falling within the limits of domestic medicine. The prevention of the disease is evidently a part of this practice, and I think the treatment of recent cases of infection may, with proper caution, be included.

The history of both gonorrhœa and syphilis, or confirmed lues, has been generally given, by authors, under the head of *Venereal Disease*, from a supposition that they are both produced by the same poison; but as I consider them to be distinct diseases, arising from the action of different specific contagions, so I have thought proper to speak of them in the plural number; and as they are chiefly communicated by venereal embraces, so I have employed the term more as a class, than a name of the disease, comprehending both the gonorrhœa, and syphilis, or confirmed lues, and their various effects on the constitution; and as the preventive means are

applicable to both diseases, I shall give them under this general head. Before I enter into the definition and treatment of each disease separate, I shall however premise the reasons that have convinced me that the diseases in question are produced by different poisons.

It must appear strange, that notwithstanding the prevalency of these diseases in the metropolis, that it should still remain a question, whether they are the consequences of the same contagion. The late Mr. Hunter, was decidedly of opinion that both diseases are produced by the same poison, and that different effects are owing to its action on different parts of the body. So that when it is applied to a secreting surface, as the urethra in men, and the vagina in women, it occasions an increased and vitiated secretion from such parts; and that when applied to the skin, it produces the disease termed lues venerea, or confirmed pox.

The following observations have convinced me of the fallacy of this author's assertion:

First. If both diseases are produced by the same poison, we should expect to find that a man infected with pox, would uniformly communicate the gonorrhœa, or clap, to a woman, inasmuch as the poison is first applied to a secreting surface in a woman, and vice versa. With people who are in the habit of promiscuous intercourse, this point is often difficult to

ascertain; but with married people it may be reduced to a certainty; and thus we find, when a married man has, in a state of inebriety, contracted a venereal infection, he has uniformly communicated the same disease to his wife: and in private practice this evidence but too frequently occurs. If, therefore, a man with a chancre on the penis was capable of exciting the gonorrhœa, the question would long before this have been decided by medical gentlemen, who are extensively concerned in this practice, and particularly as one instance would be deemed sufficient evidence, which in the course of a thousand years one would have expected to have been brought forward; but no such satisfactory testimony has been produced. One matter of fact in such a case would prove more than eight hundred pages of theoretic reasoning.

Secondly. Was the matter exciting both diseases the same, chancres and other symptoms of lues venerea, would be the necessary effects of want of cleanliness in cases of gonorrhœa; for there can be no reason why the matter of gonorrhœa, in that case, by lying on the tender skin of the glans penis in men, and inside of the labia in women, should not likewise produce chancre, or be absorbed into the system, so as to produce bubo, and other constitutional affections, particularly as ulceration is not neces-

sary for the introduction of the matter of lues venerea into the circulation. No satisfactory stance of such effects are to be found on record.

Thirdly. If the matter of the lues venerea was capable of exciting gonorrhœa, we would expect to find the latter disease attendant on chancres situated at the orifice of the urethra, or otherwise communicating by sinus, so as to admit the discharge into the urethra. Such cases are very frequent, but I have never known or heard of an instance of gonorrhœa being thus produced.

Fourthly. If the gonorrhœa is produced by the matter of lues venerea, acting on a secreting surface, why does it not produce the same disease when applied to secreting surfaces of the palate, nostrils, and gullet, instead of which, in those situations it uniformly excites chancres:

Fifthly. Mercury, which is a certain specific in the cure of confirmed lues, manifests no beneficial effect in cases of gonorrhœa, although attended with suppuration, and consequent ulcerations, and therefore is not even recommended by those who contend for the identity of the poison.

Sixthly, and lastly. It is evident from the authority of the first historians that Europe has produced, that the diseases in question did not pear in this country at the same time; and

that in many parts of these kingdoms. particularly Scotland, the disease termed lues venerea, has existed for many years, without being attended with gonorrhœa.

Those considerations, with others equally cogent, have convinced me, that the diseases are equally distinct in their origin and nature, and that they resemble each other only in the mode of communication, which I belive to be now the prevailing opinion.

Dr. Buchan, who has favoured the public with a treatise expressly on the venereal disease, declines hazarding an opinion respecting the identity of the matter, observing that it is not *material* to know whether gonorrhœa ever produces the pox, or if the pocky matter ever excites gonorrhœa, as long as we know that each is attended with symptoms peculiar to itself." I conceive it however a question of the greatest importance to decide, as the mode of treatment must in a great measure be regulated by a knowledge of the contagion.

Having, I flatter myself, satisfactorily proved that the disease termed gonorrhœa, or clap, and that termed confirmed lues or pox, are not produced by the same virus, I shall now proceed to detail the means to be adopted by way of

Prevention.

Such is the prevalency of these diseases, that

almost every prostitute that appears in the streets of London, may be considered labouring under either gonorrhœa, or lues venerea. Connection, therefore with such women, may be considered so suspicious, as to render the use of the following preventive means very necessary; which I consider in cases of pox infallible, and in case of gonorrhœa more efficacious than any that can be employed.

After an impure or suspicious connection, a man should as soon as possible make water, and, in order to wash well behind the glans penis, and the part beneath, termed the frænum (where infectious matter is very likely to lodge) he should draw forward the prepuce or loose skin, with his fingers and close the end that it may be distended by the urine, it may then be discharged, and the bladder completely evacuated, which will remove any matter that may have got into the urethra. The glans penis, and the prepuce should then be wiped perfectly dry, and the parts afterwards washed with a lotion that may be readily made at the time, by dropping ten drops of the following solution in a tea-cupful of pure water:

Take of Muriate of Mercury, half a drachm,
dissolve in
Muriatic Acid, one drachm,
Spirit of Wine, six drachms.

No soap should be employed either in the previous washing of the parts, or in conjunction with the lotion, and the skin should not be perfectly dried after its use. It will likewise be necessary that the whole of the penis, and even the hair of the pubis be washed in the same manner, and that the application be repeated the following morning. If the person was evidently affected with gonorrhœa, the urethra may be likewise washed out with the lotion in a few hours after connection, by means of a syringe; but for this purpose four drops of the solution in half a pint of water will be sufficient.

In females, after washing the parts with water (without soap) and wiping them perfectly dry, the lotion may be applied externally, of the same strength as directed for the man, and the vagina washed out, by means of a female syringe, with the weak lotion, as recommended to be injected up the urethra in the male—and repeated about twice in the course of twenty-four hours.

The proper application of this remedy I have never known to fail with gentlemen in a great number of instances after connection with an infected woman; and I am persuaded, if these means were strictly followed, these diseases, which now make such horrid ravages might be exterminated.

Dr. Buchan, in his late treatise, occupies no less than twenty pages on the means of prevent-

ing the venereal disease, great part of which is taken from Huffeland, who informs us that the most effectual preventive, is to *avoid impure connection.* The learned Doctor, after lamenting the inattention that this branch of the medical art has met with, very properly cautions the public against the baneful practice of quacks in the following observation: "While credulous men by trusting to their lies Have been trick'd out of their money & their lives."

From the supposition that the contagious matter is of an oily or mucous nature, different alkalines have been recommended with the view of rendering it miscible with water, and thus to be more effectually removed by ablution. But this idea is erroneous, and the alkaline preparations are of no more service than common soap.

Having fully recited the means by which both diseases may be prevented after impure connection, I shall now proceed to the consideration of the

GONORRHŒA. (Vulgarly termed CLAP.)

Which is an inflammation of the mucous membrane lining the urethra in men, and the vagina in women, in consequence of the application of a peculiar specific matter; generally taking place about the fourth, sixth, or eighth day after connection, but sometimes not till after the

distance of some weeks, and, in some rare cases, so early as a few hours. It commences with a pricking or itching sensation in the seat of the disease, which is soon succeeded by a discharge of different appearances, generally yellowish, but sometimes green or brown, more or less thin, and in quantity sometimes considerable, attended with a frequent desire to make water, which occasions a scalding or burning pain during its passing, and often painful erections termed chordee, which, especially when warm in bed, are involuntary, and so troublesome as to prevent the person sleeping. The seat of the running for the most part does not extend two inches from the glans penis, but when the disease is violent, it extends the whole length of theurethra, and spreads to the bladder, and the contiguous parts. In the course of the disease, the glans and body of the penis are likewise sometimes much swollen, and the inflammation spreading to the prepuce, produces a degree of contraction, so that it cannot be drawn back, which is termed a phymosis, and when it contracts behind the glans, paraphymosis. The testicles often become inflamed, and very painful, and the glands in the neighbourhood, especially those in the groin, are likewise affected, and the irritation often extends to the fundament.

In women the symptoms are much milder than

in men, and often mistaken for the fluor albus, and in them frequently terminates spontaneously; but when the inflammation spreads to the urethra it often attacks the bladder, and the contiguous parts, attended with most distressing circumstances.

TREATMENT.—The sole object of our art in the cure of this disease, is to take off the local inflammation, which may in most cases be done by avoiding exercise, by using a low and cool diet, by abstaining entirely from fermented liquors, and by taking plentifully of mild diluent drinks.

The disease is in the first instance confined to a very small portion of the urethra, generally within an inch or two of the orifice, and if topical applications be cautiously employed on its first appearance, and the system corrected by aperient and febrifuge medicines, with the means noticed above, it may, in most instances, be effectually cured in the course of two or three days. The patient should, therefore, on the first attack, employ the following remedies, without delay: As a topical lotion, a solution of acetated zinc *, in the proportion of ten grains

* If this preparation cannot be readily procured, the following may be used in its stead:

Take of Vitriolated Zinc,
Acetated Lead, of each ten grains.

to half a pint of pure water, will prove the most effectual. It should be thrown up the urethra by means of an instrument termed syringe, which requires much more attention than is generally imagined. To derive the full advantages of topical applications, which in the treatment of this disease are certainly the most important, the following instructions must be particularly attended to: A pewter syringe is the most secure, it should contain about half an ounce, and the pipe should not exceed half an inch in length, and of a conical shape, so that in the introduction of about one half, the orifice may be so completely filled as to prevent the escape of the fluid; but as this is often difficult, I have directed the person to wrap a little lint or soft leather round the pipe, close to the body of the syringe, which, by pressing against the orifice of the urethra, effectually prevents a return of the lotion; from inattention to this circumstance, the benefit of injections are frequently lost, by not being thrown up to the seat of the disease. To avoid force or pressure, it is necessary that the syringe should play easily; and for this purpose the inside should be besmeared with a little sweet oil. Before using the injection, the patient should never neglect to evacuate the

Dissolve in half a pint of water, and after standing a few minutes, pour off the clear solution for use, or it may be filtered through paper.

bladder, which removes the matter lodged in the urethra, so that the lotion is applied more immediately to the inflamed parts; besides, if this is neglected, the patient will want to make water immediately after using the injection, and thus destroy the good effects of its application. The lotion should likewise be thrown up very gently, so as not to distend the urethra, or irritate the inflamed part; neither should it be forced up above three or four inches, as it often happens that a portion of the matter is carried up with it, and thus the disease is frequently extended to the neck of the bladder; but if the urethra be washed by making water previous to to the use of the injection, this mischief will be prevented. The lotion should be retained in the urethra for a few minutes, by gently closing its orifice with the fingers, and when discharged, the patient should carefully avoid making water, to which there is always a great propensity after the use of injections. The injection should be always repeated after making water, or at least six times a day, and after the discharge has ceased, it should be discontinued gradually, as three times a day for two days after; then twice for two days more, and once for three days, when it may with safety be left off. By discontinuing the use of injections on the disappearance of the disease, it frequently happens that the discharge returns, and by being

checked, and returning again, a kind of intermittent clap is often produced, which always proves so very obstinate as to be little affected by medicine; to avoid it, it is absolutely necessary that the injection be gradually left off as above directed, this part therefore merits attention.

The syringes with long pipes have, from their rude introduction into the urethra, I am persuaded, been productive of the most serious effects, and often laid the foundation of the most distressing diseases that occur in the practice of surgery, which are generally attributed to the liquid injected. I have known so much inflammation excited by the use of a long piped syringe, from being introduced the whole length, as to produce mortification of the parts. And I am fully persuaded, that the rude use of improper syringes is the only cause of injections having been condemned by so many practitioners.

The bowels should be rendered soluble, by taking a large tea-spoonful of the following electuary, once or twice a day, with a quarter of a pint of barley water, which will allay any fever in the system, and medicate the urine.

Take of Lenitive Electuary two ounces,
Jalap Powder, half a drachm,
Gum Arabic Powder, two drachms,
Nitre Powder, one drachm,
Syrup of Marshmallows, sufficient to form an electuary.

The dose to be diminished, increased, or repeated, so as to produce three evacuations from the bowels every day.

When the disease occurs in a female, the same remedies are necessary, but the lotion should be thrown up the vagina by means of a female syringe.

If involuntary painful erections of the penis should come on, either in the day, or during night, one grain of opium should be taken every night, and a little camphorated oil applied to the body of the penis, made by dissolving two drachms of camphor in an ounce of sweet oil, which I have never known fail to allay the spasmodic affection of the muscles of the parts from whence this troublesome symptom arises.

It sometimes happens, that notwithstanding all our care and precaution, the parts are so extremely irritable from peculiarity of constitution, that every application, and even the operation of aperient medicine seem rather to aggravate than quiet the disease. When, therefore, the disease evidently advances, becoming attended with the various symptoms noticed in its description page 444, as swelling of the testicles, or of the groin, or of the prepuce, producing paraphymosis*, &c. the case is become

* The inflamed state of the prepuce, termed paraphymosis, by obstructing the circulation in the glans penis, will sometimes

much too complicated for domestic medicine, and should be referred without delay to the care of a medical practitioner, of which this country, at this time produces more eminent characters, than any former period.

When the specific nature of the disease is destroyed, and the inflammatory symptoms in consequence subsided, leaving only a discharge of mucous matter, occasioned by the relaxation of the mucous glands: Such discharge is termed

GLEET;

Which will generally yield to the use of astringent injections, tonic medicines, the cold bath, and a nutritious diet.

As an injection, the following will prove the most effectual:

Take of Allum, one scruple, dissolve in
Pure Water, half a pint.

To be injected into the urethra in men, and the vagina in women, three or four times a day, by means of a syringe.

Three of the following pills should likewise be taken three or four times a day:

in a few hours produce mortification of the parts, and it is astonishing the number of young men that lose half the penis in those cases, by resorting to quack doctors.

Take of Essential Salt of Bark,
Gum Olibanum, of each one drachm,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form a
mass—To be divided into thirty-two pills.

Or, a tea-spoonful of the following electuary:

Take of Balsam of Copaiba, three drachms,
Powdered Peruvian Bark, one ounce,
Conserve of Orange Peel, two ditto,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form an electuary.

When this disease arises from stricture in the urethra, which is not unfrequently the case, astringent injections will be more injurious than otherwise. The use of a bougie *, carefully introduced is the only safe remedy. In case of irritability of the bladder, and urethra, and difficulty

* The good effects of bougies arising from their mechanical pressure, the more solid their substance in general, the more efficacious they will prove. If the stricture is attended with much irritation, the cat-gut bougie will answer best; but if the irritation be not considerable, the metallic bougies invented by Mr. Smyth, may be applied with much greater advantage. In introducing a bougie, great care should be taken to gradually slide it down the lower part of the urethra, there being on the upper part a number of duplicatures or folds of the internal membrane, in which the end of the bogue is frequently entangled, and much mischief done by forcing the way. On meeting with any obstruction the bougie should be withdrawn, and the second attempt made, by twirling it round with the fingers, employing at the same time a gentle pressure.

making wat-, in consequence of strictures, the muriat- tincture of steel has been very suc-cessfully prescribed by Mr. Cline, in the dose of ten drops, every twenty or thirty minutes; and in many instances I have known this remedy succeed in relaxing the spasms, &c. of the parts, so as to enable the patient to evacuate his water with ease, after other remedies had failed: and in two cases it seemed to afford more relief, than even large doses of laudanum.

LUES VENEREA. (Commonly termed POX.)

Various opinions have been maintained by medical authors respecting the origin of this disease, and the period it first made its appearance in this country, which being a matter more of curiosity than real utility, I consider unnecessary to investigate here.

Under the head of *Venereal Disease*, I assigned the reasons that convinced me, that the lues venerea, and gonorrhœa, are not produced by the same contagious matter, and likewise there treated on the means of preventing infection after impure connexion, as applicable to both diseases; so that I have only now to give such definition of symptoms, and treatment of this disease, as, I conceive, may prove useful in domestic medicine.

The lues venerea, is most commonly contracted by coition with an infected person, and I am fully persuaded, often without the existence of any open ulcer on the genitals of the person communicating the disease, and that the constitution of the person receiving it may be infected, without any previous local injury. It is often communicated from an infected child to the nurse, and vice versa; and a number of instances occur of people receiving the infection by kissing or drinking out of a cup recently used by an infected person, or by wearing the apparel on which some matter of venereal ulcer had been discharged.

It generally occurs locally, on the part of the body to which the poison is applied, and, as it is for the most part communicated by coition, so the genitals are generally the seat of the primary affections. The poison, applied to the skin, first excites a slight degree of inflammation which becomes itchy, producing the ulceration termed *Chancre*, which is distinguished by a circumscribed inflammation, a thickened base, want of disposition to heal, &c. The period of its first appearance is very uncertain, depending on the irritability of the part to which the matter is applied, and the diluted state of the matter itself, from being more or less mixed with mucus. Sometimes they form in less than twenty-four hours after conexion; generally in six or eight

days, while in some instances they have not taken place till six weeks have elapsed; but in those protracted cases, I am inclined to believe they are not primary or local chancres, that is, not excited by the local or external application of the venereal virus, but produced by the virus previously introduced into the circulation; and thus they are generally attended with some other affection of the system. The contagious matter of chancre, sooner or later, enters the system by the absorbent vessels, inflaming the glands it passes through, producing the swelling termed *Bubo*; it then becomes mixed with the mass of the blood, and if its devastations on the system be not checked by medicine, these symptoms are in time succeeded by others more formidable, as ulcers and inflammation in the throat, mouth and nose; eruptions or blotches on the surface of the body; ulcers in different parts; inflammation of the membranes covering the bones, producing the disease termed nodes *; excrescences form about the anus. The testicles. at this period, somesrimes become swelled; loss of hair from all parts of the body; blindness, deafness; and other anomalous symytoms at length succeed.

* It is remarkable that these swellings only occur on the membranes of the parts of bones that are not covered by muscles, as the shin bone, the skull, and the elbow.

Having thus briefly stated the order in which the disease generally advances, when uninterrupted by medicine, I shall now proceed on the treatment of those stages which may be considered as forming a part of domestic medicine; but so various are its appearances in different constitutions, particularly when combined with scrophula, that I cannot advise any person to be his own doctor, even in the mildest cases, being fully convinced that it is impossible to elucidate the disease, or lay down instructions for its cure, under all circumstances, so clearly as to enable a person to practise with safety either on himself or his neighbour.

Treatment.—Mercury is the only medicine that has manifested a specific power in curing this disease, and although a potent medicine, and in certain doses a strong poison, it may be introduced into the system, so as effectually to destroy the venereal virus, without injuring the constitution. Numerous remedies have been, at different times, recommended by practitioners as specifics in this disease, which experience has not confirmed.

Within these six years the nitric and muriatic acids have been much extolled; but the many trials that I have known made with them, have convinced me that they do not possess any anti-venereal property whatsoever; and that the cases

that have been brought forward in evidence of such power, were not really venereal, but the effects of a long course of mercury. Were they, however capable of curing the disease, it would become a question whether they possess any advantage over mercury, which, so far from allowing, I believe them to be more injurious to the constitution.

With respect to the treatment of chancres there is a great difference of opinion among practitioners; some contending that they should be cured only by internal remedies, from a supposition that the sudden healing of them might force the venereal poison into the blood, and thus affect the constitution; while others assert that they should be immediately healed up, by topical applications, to avoid contamination of the blood.

As there is no regular period at which absorption of matter from a chancre takes place, or certain criterion by which we can judge whether the constitution is infected, it never can be safe or fair practice to trust entirely to local applications; but I am fully persuaded, that the sooner the poison of chancre is destroyed by caustic, and the ulcer healed, the chance of any constitutional infection will be lessened, and of course the sooner will the patient be cured.

Dr. Buchan, in his late Treatise on the Venereal Disease, adopts the opinion of the antient

authors, who wrote more from theory than practice. "When chancres are dried up suddenly" observes this author, "there is always reason to dread some bad consequences: instead of skinning over the chancre, and making the patient believe he is cured, a practice but too common, I generally endeavour to keep it open, especially when it seems disposed to heal quickly, I think it safer practice not to use any escharrotics, as they tend to heal the chancre too soon, and to excite buboes." In the same chapter, the Doctor, however, contradicts this assertion, by stating, "when the chancres seem disposed to spread, I generally order them to be sprinkled with calomel, which is one way of throwing mercury into the system." It is, however, a well known fact, that the longer a chancre is kept open, the more poison it generates, and of course supplies it more copiously to the blood; and if a bubo be produced from an absorption of the virus, and the chancre suffered to remain open, the constant irritation kept up in the inflamed gland, by fresh absorption of matter, all attempts to disperse it will prove ineffectual, unless the resource be destroyed. Besides, I am disposed to believe that local chancres are not always to be cured by internal remedies—A case some time since occurred in my practice, of a gentleman who had followed Dr. Buchan's plan,

by taking mercury, till he really salivated himself, without altering the appearance of the chancre, and after the effects of the mercury was gone off, in consequence of the chancre continuing in a spreading state, he was induced to go through a second course with no better success, after discontinuing the use of mercury nearly a fortnight, an absorption took place from the chancre, producing bubo, and the gentleman was, in a most reduced state, obliged to undergo a third course of mercury, which, with topical applications, soon cured him; and had local means been taken to cure the chancre during the course of mercury, by his first attendant, it would have saved much unnecessary pain, and other great inconveniences.

I have known many troublesome consequences follow from allowing chancres to remain unhealed; and I have uniformly observed the constitutional affections to be more considerable and violent, in proportion as chancres have been suffered to remain open; besides, a chancre can only be healed by destroying the specific poison, and thus converting it into an ulcer that will of itself readily heal; and if this be done on the first appearance, any contamination of the system will be entirely obviated. But supposing it possible to *dry up a chancre* by repelling the matter into the system, what danger could re-

sult from it, if the internal use of mercury be employed at the same time? which I conceive necessary in every case of chancre, and to be continued till the mouth is rendered sore by it, with an increased secretion of saliva; when the patient may be pronounced perfectly cured, whether the constitution was affected or not. It has likewise been stated that a chancre should be cured by internal remedies, as its healing would be a proof of the disease being entirely destroyed in the habit; but the only satisfactory evidence is the soreness of the mouth, and if this effect be not produced by mercury, the person cannot be declared to be cured, although the chancre may have been healed by the internal use of mercury.

Instead, therefore, of the absurd practice of keeping open a chancre to infect the constitution, and subjecting the patient to a course of mercury for two or three months, unnecessarily, which must considerably impair his general health, the chancre should be touched with lunar caustic on its first appearance, after which a little lint may be applied, and the ulcer dressed in about twelve hours afterwards with the following ointment spread on lint of the size of the ulcer.

Take of Nitrated Mercury, finely powdered, two drachms,

Spermaceti ointment, one ounce.
Mix.

With this ointment the ulcer should likewise be dressed twice a day, after being cleaned by means of lint. The application of the caustic should be repeated every second day for four or five times, when the use of the ointment will be sufficient to heal the ulcer, by destroying the venereal poison. If these means be employed within three days after the first appearance of a chancre, they will, in ninety-nine cases out of one hundred, cure the patient without the concurrence of internal remedies; but as I have already observed, there are no certain signs by which we can say for certainty the constitution is not contaminated; it will, in all cases, be advisable to employ mercury internally, for, if not infected, the necessary affection of the mouth, &c. will be produced by so small a quantity of mercury, that cannot injure the constitution, and when the mouth is made sore, and continued in that state a few days, the patient has the great satifaction of being assured that he is perfectly free from any venereal infection whatever; and by these means he may be as effectually cured in fourteen days, as in as many months, by the old practice of keeping the chancre open.

Mercury may be introduced into the system

either by taking it in the form of pills, or by friction on the skin, in the form of ointment. The latter, on account of its not acting on the stomach and intestines, should be preferred; and as by its passing through the glands in the groin, on being rubbed either on the calves of the legs, or inside of the thighs, I have always recommended it—but as a sufficient quantity of mercury cannot always be thus forced into the habit without considerable labour, and sometimes producing much inflammation of the skin, I have always directed the following pills to be used likewise:

Take of Prepared Calomel, half a drachm,
Purified Opium, five grains,
Conserve of Hips, sufficient to form twenty pills.

One to be take every night at bed-time, and forenoon between breakfast and dinner.

The common mercurial ointment is generally recommended for external friction; but on account of its dark colour and the quicksilver in general not being properly divided in it, I have employed the following with greater effect; and am convinced, for this purpose, it is a much better ointment than the blue ointment, and considerably cleaner in application.

Take of White Calx of Quicksilver, three drachms, to be rubbed in a mortar with one drachm of
Olive Oil, for about ten minutes, then add
Hog's Lard, free from salt, one ounce.
Mix well together.

A drachm of this ointment should be rubbed on the inside of the thighs or calves of the legs every night till it disappears. If an assistant be employed to rub it in—he should cover the hand he uses with bladder, otherwise the absorbent vessels of his hand will rob the patient of one half; by neglecting this precaution, nurses are frequently salivated.

If the pills of calomel and opium should purge the patient, the quantity of the latter must be doubled, and the patient should particularly avoid eating much vegetables, and the use of acids of any kind, which are almost sure to purge with mercury. When the gums become swollen and tender, with an increased secretion of saliva, a coppery taste in the mouth, the mercurial inunction should be omitted, and the soreness of the mouth kept up for a few days, by taking the pills either once or twice a day, till the chancre be entirely healed.

The diet should consist chiefly of meat and broth, and if the patient's strength be reduced, he may take animal jellies. Milk, by turning sour, or curding, does not agree in general under a mercurial course; but thickened either with a little arrow-root, or flour, it affords the best diet.

The patient should likewise avoid exposure to cold; and I think, in all cases the use of flannel drawers and shirt next the skin highly proper.

If the soreness of the mouth be very troublesome, it may be often rinsed out with the acidulated gargle, No. 82, page 76, in the Family Dispensatory.

If a swelling should take place in the groin, termed bubo, the ointment should be rubbed in on the calf of the leg, or inside of the thigh on which it appears, and not over the bubo, as is the common custom. Exercise, particularly walking, should in this case be avoided, and a plaster of diachylon applied over it to defend it from the friction of the linen, &c. The topical application of leeches, and saturnine lotions, I have never known to prove of the least advantage. The mercurial friction twice a day, and rest, generally succeed in dispersing the inflammation, if properly persevered in. If it should, however, advance to suppuration, the

case ceases to belong to domestic medicine, and should be referred to a surgeon of reputation in this branch of practice.

If by these means the chancre should heal, and no symptom of constitutional infection intervene, and the mouth be affected as noticed above, by the use of mercury, and kept up five or six days, by taking diminished doses of the pills, the patient may carry off the mercury, by a little aperient medicine, as the following electuary:

Take of Lenitive Electuary, two ounces,
Flour of Sulphur, half an ounce,
Jalap Powder, half a drachm,
Syrup of Ginger, sufficient to form an electuary.

Two tea-spoonfuls to be taken every morning.

If the patient should be much reduced, he may likewise take two table-spoonfuls of the following mixture three times a day:

Take of Decoction of Bark, seven ounces,
Compound Tincture of ditto, one ounce. Mix.

The use of mercury should not be entirely discontinued, although the mouth may be suffi-

ciently affected by it, as long as there remains any local venereal affection; nor should any aperient medicine be used during a course of mercury, unless the constitution should suffer from long costiveness, when a little lenitive electuary may be taken, so as to produce one motion.

It frequently happens, that after the local and constitutional infection is entirely destroyed, the ulceration continues, and if the constitution be tainted with scrophula, it will often assume the appearance of a true *venereal ulcer*, and even sometimes, after a person has been affected with mercury so as to destroy the venereal infection, on discontinuing the use of mercury, ulcerations and other symptoms will appear in the constitution, so resembling lues venerea, as to be often mistaken for it; but instead of being relieved by the re-use of mercury, they are generally aggravated by it. These affections seem to be more the effect of mercury than the venereal disease, and will generally yield to tonic medicines, a restorative diet, and more especially country or the sea air.

It is in these cases that the nitric acid, and other medicines have obtained the reputation of curing the venereal disease in the practice of medical men, whose experience has not enabled

them to properly discriminate between the two diseases. Indeed these subsequent cases so often resemble the true lues venerea, that I have known a case of a gentleman with ulcerations in his throat, and eruptions of the skin, so approaching to the character of lues venerea, that among six surgeons of eminence in this line of practice, three of them declared it venereal, while the other three were of a contrary opinion. The gentleman abided by the advice of those who pronounced his case not venereal, and the result proved that they were right. It will appear, therefore obvious, that instead of this disease, when it has made any progress in the system, being a proper case for domestic medicine, a person so infected should not even trust to inexperienced practitioners; for it is not the practice of a few years that can qualify a surgeon to undertake all cases, and it frequently happens, by one mistake, so much mischief is produced as to render the patient wretched for life.

The number of melancholy cases that apply weekly to the hospitals for admission, in consequence of trusting to quack medicines, is incredible. It is calculated, that no less than four thousand prostitutes die annually in the different hospitals in London, chiefly through false confidence in the judgment of empirics.

Among the thousands these impostors state to have cured, they may with truth say, that their nostrums have destroyed as many more, and that too in a manner more painful than ever punishment was yet inflicted on the most depraved criminal.

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ERRATA.

Page 171—line 6, from bottom—for *or inflammation*, read *the inflammation.*

247—line 4, from bottom—for *apoplectic* read *epileptic.*